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The SHIELD

AN
MLJ
MAGAZINE





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SHIELD G-MAN CLUB

A SWELL WAY TO START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT, IS TO JOIN THE **SHIELD G MAN CLUB**, HEY, DUSTY?

RIGHT, SHIELD! AND THE SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL, FROM US, AND EVERY MEMBER OF OUR G MAN CLUB!



THE HONORARY MEMBERS OF THE SHIELD G MAN CLUB THIS MONTH ARE

CLARENCE KENNER
1602 E. 18TH ST.
KANSAS CITY, MO.

LOYD HILLIGAS
CHAMBERS
NEB.

JOAN FRIEDLIN
PITMAN
N.J.

TOMMY NATCHUS
NORFOLK
VA.

USE THIS ENTIRE COUPON!!

JUST PRINT PLAINLY ON THIS COUPON, YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AGE AND SEND IT TO ME WITH 10c TO COVER COST OF MAILING AND HANDLING.

Joe Higgins
Room 315
60 Hudson St.
New York City

Dear Joe:

Please enroll me as a member of the **SHIELD G-MAN CLUB**. I am enclosing this coupon together with Ten Cents to cover the costs of handling and mailing my Badge and Identification Card.



EXACT COPY OF BADGE
IN THREE COLORS
RED—WHITE—BLUE

NAME.....

ADDRESS..... AGE.....

CUT ON THIS LINE

THE ORIGINAL
SHIELD
AND
DUSTY
the
BOY DETECTIVE

TALES
of a
SAFETY PIN

LOOK AT IT, DEAR READER!
YES, IT'S JUST A LOWLY
COMMON SAFETY PIN.. A BENT
AND BLACKENED ONE AT THAT!
YET, IT'S HAD MORE ADVENTURES
THAN YOU EVER DREAMED OF!
HOW CAN THERE BE A
STORY IN THIS TINY BIT OF
METAL, YOU ASK? AH, JUST
LISTEN! IF THIS PIN COULD
TALK, HERE'S THE TALE
IT WOULD TELL....



FIRST, LET US LOOK AT OUR PIN, AS IT COMES NEW, AND SHINY FROM THE FACTORY! A SIMPLE THING, ISN'T IT? IT DOESN'T SEEM THAT IT COULD GO THROUGH TRAGEDY AND CRIME, DOES IT?



YET LATER, IT FINDS IT'S WAY TO A SOLDIER..



MY OVERSEAS CALL! I'LL PIN UP MY MONEY AND PERSONAL LETTERS INSIDE MY POCKET!

MUCH LATER, A BULLET FINDS ITS MARK!

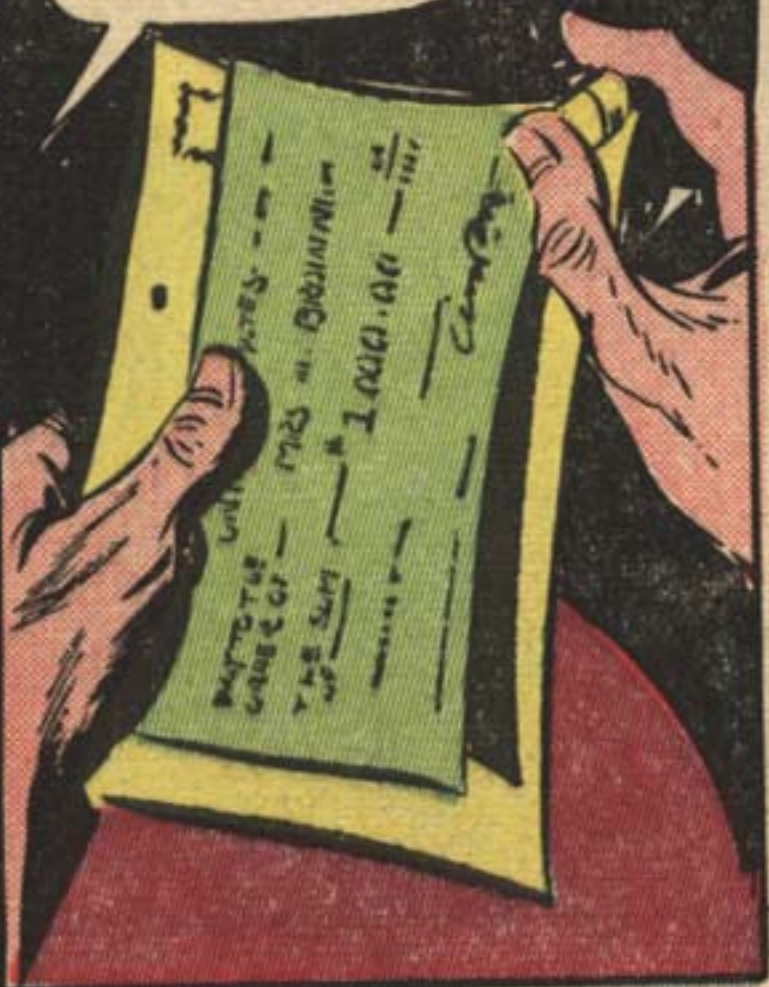
AND THE PIN HAS ALREADY SEEN THE GRIM REAPER AT WORK.....

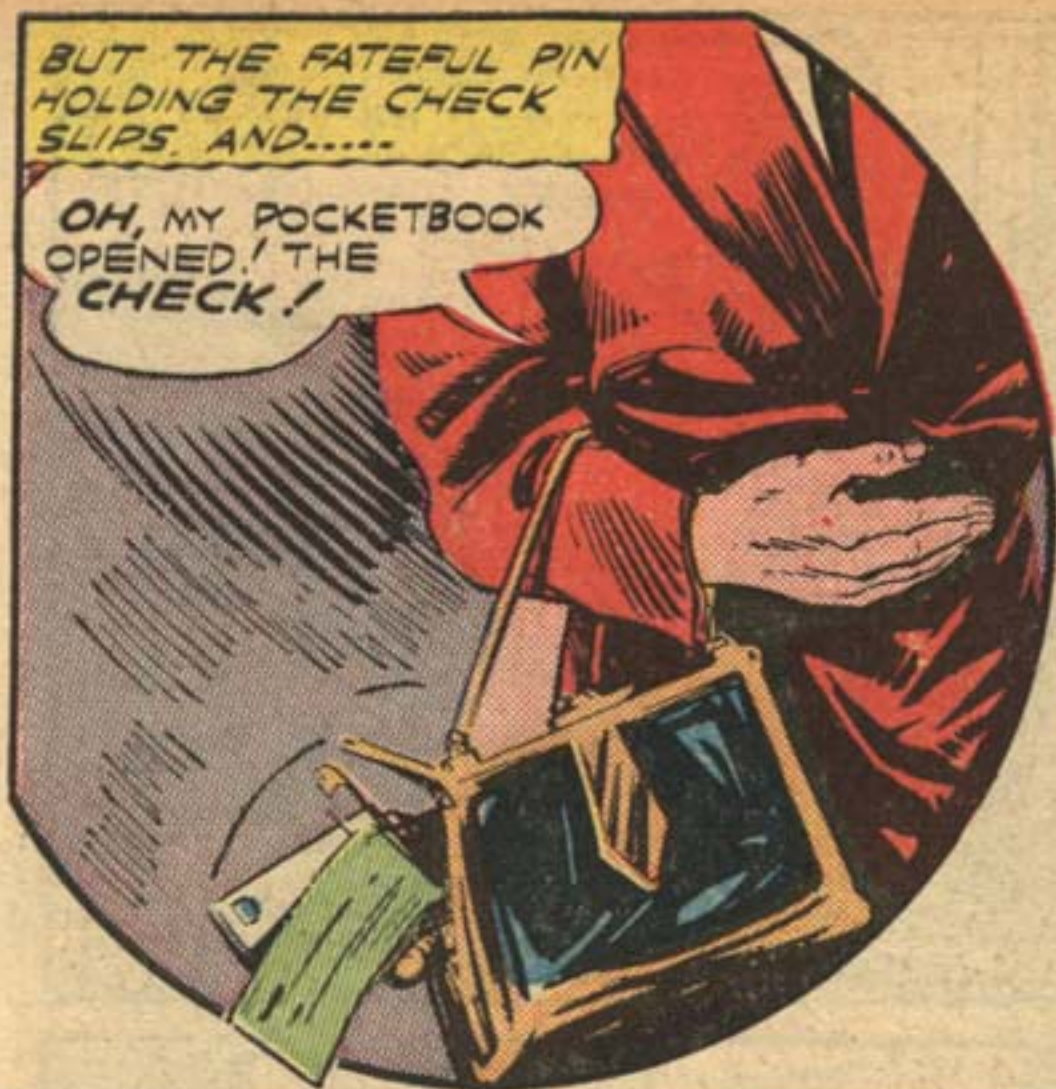


BACK HOME, A GRIEF STRICKEN WIDOW RECEIVES THE PITIFUL BUNDLE OF BELONGINGS PINNED TOGETHER...

MY HUSBAND IS GONE! THIS MONEY IS ALL I HAVE NOW, TO LIVE ON!

I'LL DEPOSIT THIS CHECK AT THE BANK!





BUT THE FATEFUL PIN HOLDING THE CHECK SLIPS, AND.....

OH, MY POCKETBOOK OPENED! THE CHECK!



A BIG CHECK FROM THE GOVERNMENT... FOR A DEAD SOLDIER! HMMM...



OH, THANK YOU, SIR!

LADY, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE A LOT MORE TO THANK JOHN BRICK FOR! WILL YOU ACCOMPANY TO MY OFFICE? YOU WON'T REGRET IT, I ASSURE YOU!



STEP IN, PLEASE! I'M GOING TO LET YOU IN ON AN INVESTMENT, WHICH WILL DOUBLE YOUR MONEY!

I'M NOT SURE I SHOULD, MR. BRICK! IT'S ALL THE MONEY I HAVE LEFT IN THE WORLD!



YOU SOUND SO HONEST, MR. BRICK! I'M SURE THESE STOCKS ARE JUST WHAT YOU SAY!

OF COURSE, THEY ARE! I WOULDN'T DO THIS FOR EVERYBODY, LADY! G'BYE, MRS. HARKINS!



HAW, HAW! THE PIN ON THIS CHECK'S WORTH MORE, THAN THE STOCKS I SOLD HER!



AND NOW, LOOK WHAT OUR SIMPLE LITTLE PIN HAS ALREADY BEEN WITNESS TO. DEATH! SORROW! A SORDID SHINDLE! BUT THERE IS MORE TO COME... MUCH MORE... BEFORE THIS COMMON BIT OF METAL SINKS INTO OBLIVION!!

LATER, CHANGING HANDS, THAT SAME PIN IS USED TO PIN VALUABLE STOCKS TOGETHER!



BUT IF ONLY HIS EYES COULD SEE THE OMINOUS REFLECTION...ON THE SHINY PIN, OF GRIM FIGURES SILENTLY ENTERING...



DESPERATELY, THE STOCK-OWNER TRIES TO SLAM THE SAFE SHUT, BUT.....



BUT WHY LOTS OF IT? ONE SHOT DID THE TRICK, HEH, HEH!



AN' LOOK...A PIECE O' STRING! WOT LUCK! JUST WOT I NEED FOR MY STRING COLLECTION!





BAH! YOU AN' YER MISERLY HABITS! SAVIN' BITS OF STRING.. PINS.. PAPER.. AN' JUNK! LOOK, YA DOPE, WE'VE GOT A **MILLION BUCKS** IN OUR HANDS NOW!



I'LL UNPIN 'EM AND COUNT.. **OUCH!** G*!..?D!! THAT **BLASTED PIN!** IT STUCK ME!



WAIT! DON'T THROW IT AWAY, SILK.. I WANT DAT PIN FER MY PIN COLLECTION!

BAH!



DOGGONE! WHERE'S THAT PRETTY LITTLE PIN? I CAN'T FIND IT!

NUTS! ARE YOU COMIN' MISER, OR NOT? I GOT ALL THE FINGERPRINTS WIPED OFF!

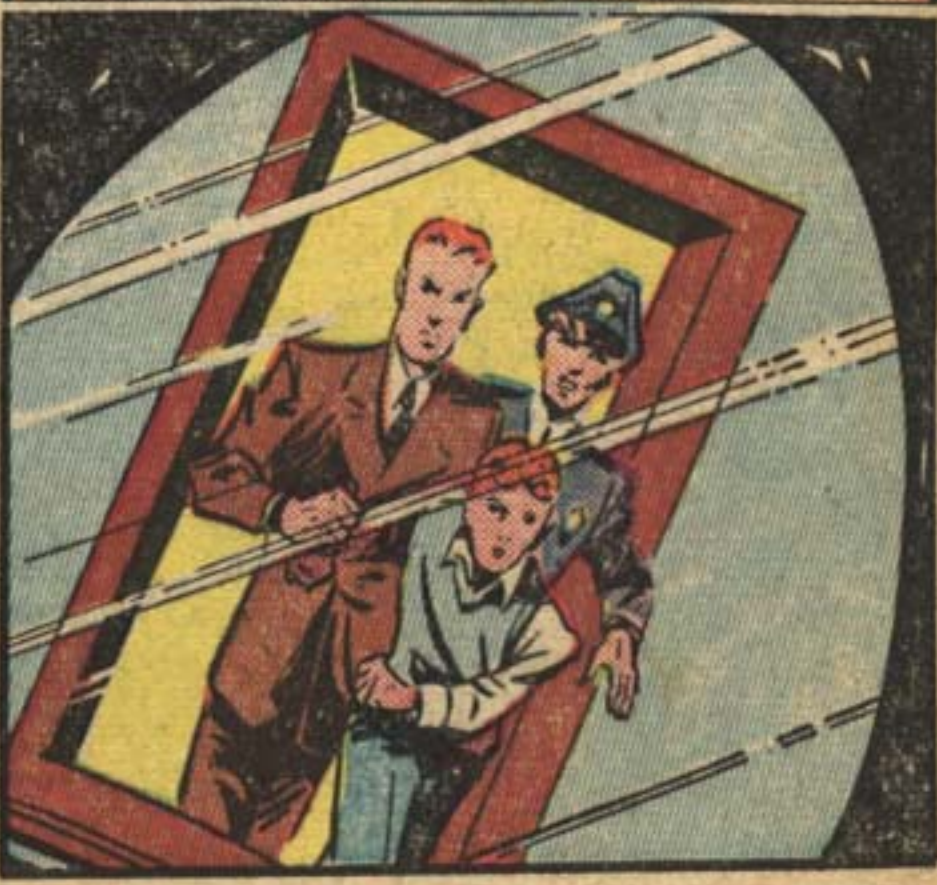


THERE! NO FINGERPRINTS! **SILK!** THAT'S ME.. SMOOTH AS SILK! THAT'S WHY THE BULLS NEVER CATCH UP TO ME.. I NEVER LEAVE NO CLUES BEHIND!

NO, THEY HAVE LEFT NO CLUES BEHIND.. NOTHING, EXCEPT A SMALL INSIGNIFICANT PIN, LYING IN THE CORNER!



LATER, THE BRIGHT SURFACE OF THE PIN REFLECTS THE ARRIVAL OF POLICE.. AND OF JOE HIGGINS AND DUSTY..





MURDERED!
HIS SAFE IS **EMPTY!**
BUT WHO DID IT? NOT
ONE BLASTED CLUE
TO GO BY!



DUSTY'S SHARP EYES HIT SOMETHING!

HEY, JOE, LOOK!
THIS PIN HAS A DROP
OF **DRIED BLOOD**
ON IT!



HMM...ASSUMING,
IT PRICKED THE
MURDERER, A BLOOD
TEST WOULD POINT
TO HIM! CAN I TAKE
THIS PIN ALONG,
REILLY?

GO AHEAD..
GO AHEAD!
IF YOU THINK
A LITTLE
PIN'LL SOLVE
THIS CASE..
BAH!



WOULDN'T YOU
BE SURPRISED
IF THAT LITTLE
PIN WOULD
PIN DOWN
THE MURDERER,
REILLY!



IT'S A LONG
CHANCE, DUSTY..
BUT WE CAN'T
OVERLOOK EVEN
SO SMALL A THING
AS A PIN! WE'LL
HAVE THAT **DRIED**
BLOOD ANALYZED!



THE REPORT, LATER...
BLOOD TYPE ZERO, BOYS,
A RATHER RARE TYPE!

I'LL TAKE
THE PIN ALONG,
FOR LUCK!

THANKS!
C'MON, DUSTY!
NOW WE GO
THROUGH THE
ROGUE'S
GALLERY
FILES!



THESE ARE RECORDS OF ALL THE
BLOOD TYPES OF CRIMINALS WHO
EVER SERVED A STRETCH! THE
ZERO TYPE IS REALLY
RARE, ALL RIGHT! I'VE ONLY
FOUND TWO!

AND I'VE GOT
ONE JOE!



HERE'S ONE WITH A ZERO BLOOD TYPE! SILKY MALONE! AND ACCORDING TO THIS FILE ON HIM, THIS IS JUST THE KIND OF A JOB HE SPECIALIZES IN!

NO. 67021 HGT. 5'4" WGT. 160 HAIR - BLACK EYES - GREY COLOR - WHITE TYPE - O

NO. 240167 HGT. 5'9" WGT. 160 HAIR - BLACK EYES - GREY COLOR - WHITE TYPE - O



SO, NOW, THE SHIELD AND DUSTY, THE BOY DETECTIVE GO VISITING, HUH??

RIGHT!



IMAGINE A LITTLE PIN LIKE THIS TELLING US SO MUCH!



UNLESS I MISS MY GUESS, SILK IS SO COCK-SURE OF HIMSELF, HE DIDN'T EVEN BOTHER TO CHANGE HIS HANGOUT!

!!



AND IN SILK'S HANGOUT..

GEE, SILK! WOTTA HAUL!

YEAH! AND NOT A CLUE! THEY DON'T CALL ME SILK FOR NOTHIN'!



SILK! LOOK! A PENNY!



HAW! HAW! ALL THIS JACK, AND YOU PICK UP PENNIES! WOTTA CHARACTER!



HIYA, SILK! MIND IF WE DROP IN?

TH-- THE SHIELD!



OR SHOULD I SAY, MIND IF I **DROP YOU!**



YOU'RE **THROUGH**, SILK! THIS LITTLE **PIN** TOLD THE POLICE ENOUGH OF A STORY TO SEND YOU AND MISER TO THE **CHAIR!**



QUICK! GET THE DROP ON 'IM, SILK!



HANDLE THE BRAT, MISER! THE **SHIELD'S** GONNA BE A **DEAD PIGEON!**



BOY! THE GUY WHO CALLED THIS A **SAFETY PIN**, WASN'T THINKING OF **CROOKS!**



GET THE **POINT?**

Ow...



NOW, I'LL.. **UGH..**

NOW YOU'LL **EAT LEAD**, SHIELD!



SHIELD! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

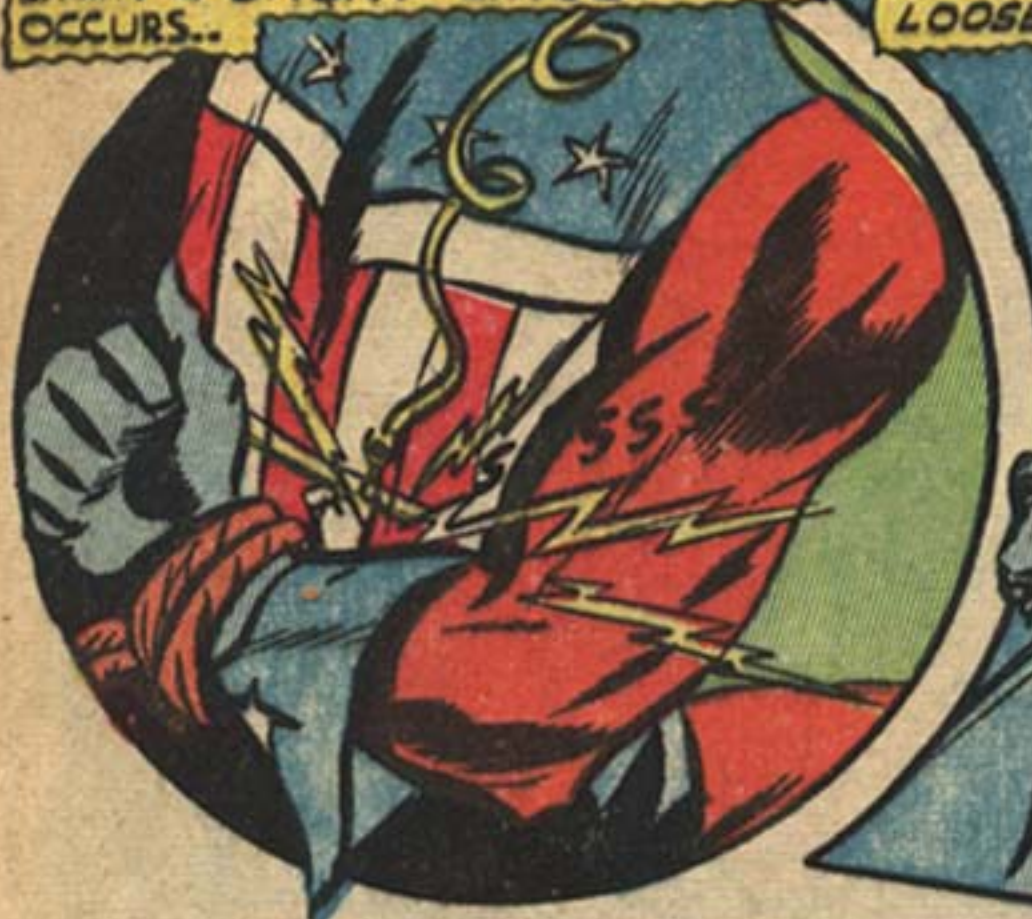


THE SHIELD HURTLES INTO THE WALL, WITH STUNNING IMPACT..



...AND AS SILK PULLS THE LIGHT CHAIN A SHORT CIRCUIT OCCURS...

OUT GO THE LIGHTS.. AND IN THE DARKNESS THE DUO LOOSEN THEIR BONDS....



MISER! SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG!



EVERYTHING'S GONE WRONG!

FOR YOU TWO!



DON'T THEY MAKE A PRETTY PICTURE?

THEY'LL LOOK EVEN BETTER IN A FRAMED CELL!

THE POLICE ARE IMMEDIATELY SUMMONED....

THERE ARE YOUR BOND THIEVES, AND THE MURDERERS!

WHEW! YOU GOT 'EM COLD ALL RIGHT BOYS!



BUT HOW'D YOU TRACK EM DOWN SO QUICK? WHO TIPPED YOU OFF!

A PIN! ONLY A PIN!

"ONLY A PIN" SO ENDS THE TALE OF A SAFETY PIN! OR IS IT THE END? FOR FATE KNOWS NO BEGINNING NOR END! AND SURELY, THIS LOWLY SAFETY PIN PLAYED THE "ROLE OF FATE..



CAPTAIN COMMANDO

and the
BOY
SOLDIERS

Communique
NO. 12.

JAPAN IS DOOMED!
HOW CAN THE SUN EMPEROR
HOPE TO CONQUER, WHEN HE
IS FORCED TO FIGHT PEOPLE
LIKE

the
**FERRYBOAT
ADMIRAL**



IN THE TINY VILLAGE OF KNOWENI THERE LIVES A GREAT MAN, GREATER THAN THE MAYOR, OR THE MILITARY GOVERNOR IN HIS PALACE, AND (SOME SAY) NEXT IN IMPORTANCE TO THE GOOD QUEEN HERSELF.

THE NAME OF THIS AUGUST PERSONAGE IS KARL HENRIK WILLEM VAN HOOSSEN, SOMETIMES KNOWN AS THE ADMIRAL...

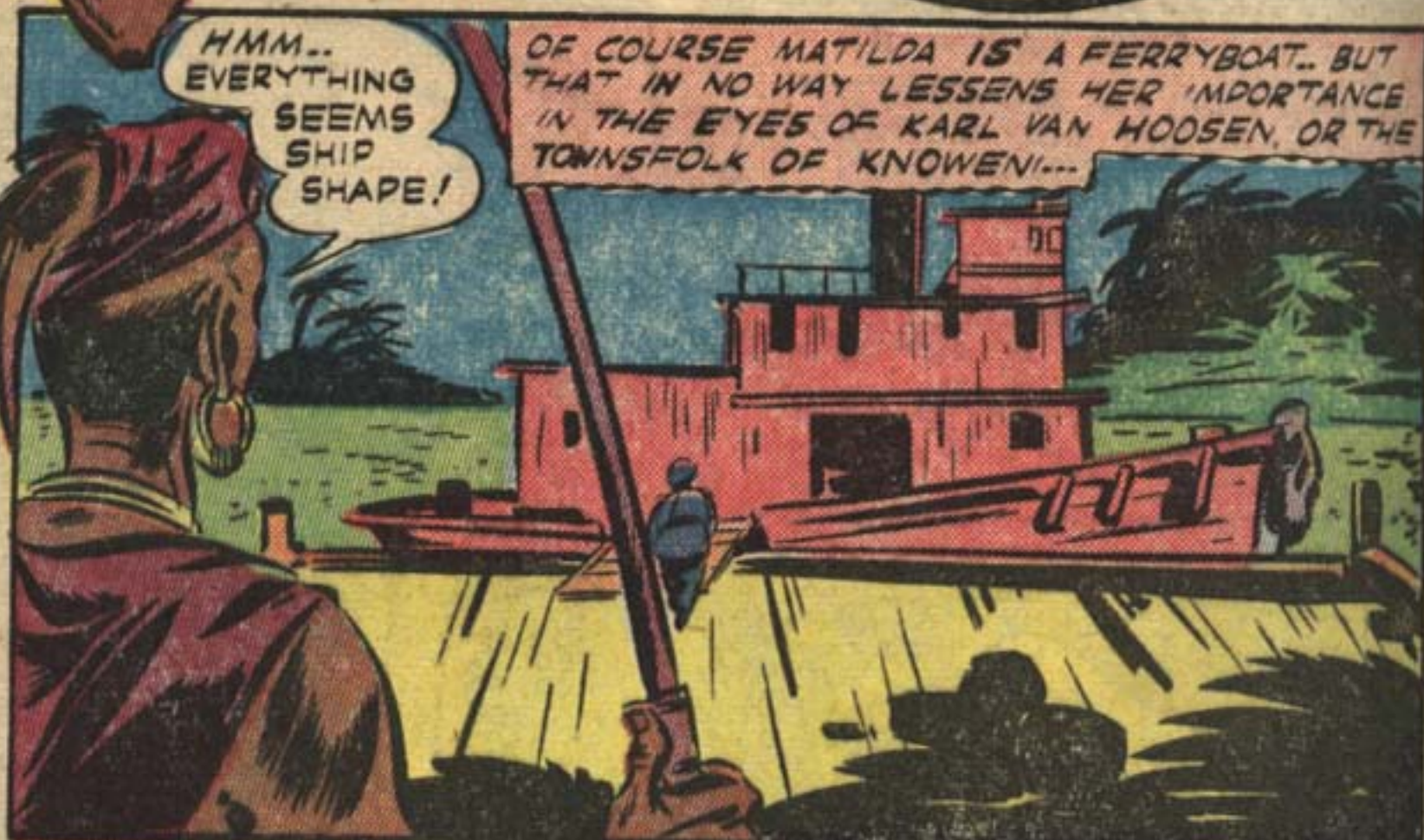


HERE HE COMES!

DOESN'T HE LOOK HANDSOME?

SEE WHAT A MANLY CHEST HE HAS!!

ADMIRAL VAN HOOSSEN IS INDEED A RETIRED NAVAL OFFICER WHOM THE IGNORANT ARE APT TO SAY HAS SEEN "BETTER DAYS"! BUT THESE BENIGHTED STRANGERS DO NOT KNOW ABOUT MATILDA... ADMIRAL VAN HOOSSEN'S PERSONAL COMMAND.. AND AS FINE A SHIP AS ANY SAILING MAN COULD ASK FOR...



HMM.. EVERYTHING SEEMS SHIP SHAPE!

OF COURSE MATILDA IS A FERRYBOAT.. BUT THAT IN NO WAY LESSENS HER IMPORTANCE IN THE EYES OF KARL VAN HOOSSEN, OR THE TOWNSFOLK OF KNOWENI...



A GREASE SPOT! DOSE CARELESS CHILDREN HAVE BEEN CLIMBING OVER MATILDA AGAIN! DEY OUGHT TO BE HANGED FROM DER YARD. ARM!

SO MUCH FOR MATILDA! PERHAPS A FINAL WORD SHOULD BE ADDED ABOUT HER SKIPPER, KARL HENRIK WILLEM VON HOOSSEN, FOR HE AND MATILDA ARE INDIVISIBLE!.....

I'VE BEEN MARRIED TO YOU FOR THIRTY SEVEN YEARS! I SHOULD GET SOME CONSIDERATION! AND I NEED A NEW DRESS!

IMPOSSIBLE, MY DEAR! I SPENT ALL MY MONEY GETTING A NEW COMPASS FOR MATILDA!

MATILDA! MATILDA!...
AND WHY DID YOU
BUY A COMPASS?
YOU NEVER SAIL
ANYWHERE EXCEPT
BACK AND FORTH
ACROSS THE
BAY!

ALL DER BIG
BOATS HAF
COMPASSES! DEN
MATILDA SHOULD
HAF ONE TOO!



DON'T MENTION
MATILDA TO ME!
I THINK YOU LOVE
THAT BOAT MORE THAN
YOUR OWN
WIFE!

DON'T TALK
MIT SUCH
FOOLISHNESS!



AFTER ALL, MINE
BOAT IS MINE BOAT...
AND A MAN CAN
FINDT A NEW WIFE
ANYPLACE!

KARL VAN HOOSSEN
MIGHT HAVE
GONE ON WITH
HIS MATILDA,
IN THE PEACEFUL
WAYS OF THE
TINY VILLAGE
OF KNOWENI...
BUT THERE
CAME
DECEMBER 7TH,
1941,
AND THE WHOLE
PACIFIC BOILED
OVER INTO A
BATH OF
BLOOD THAT
AT LENGTH
ENGULFED
EVEN
KNOWENI...

ON THE DAY THE JAPS TOOK OVER THE VILLAGE
THERE WAS A LITTLE TROUBLE...



A MADMAN ON THE
FERRY, SIRE! HE
WON'T LET US
COME ABOARD!

WHAT IS
WRONG
HERE?



YOU LITTLE MEN CHUST
TRY TO TAKE MY MATILDA
AWAY FROM ME! I VILL
SHOOT YOU IN
LITTLE
PIECES!

I MERELY
WAITED FOR
YOUR ARRIVAL,
SIRE! SHALL
I ORDER HIM
KILLED?

NO! WE WILL LET HIM
KEEP HIS BOAT! THE PEOPLE
WILL NOT SABOTAGE THE
FERRY WHILE THE
OLD FOOL IS IN
COMMAND! BUT
HE WILL RUN
THE FERRY
FOR US!



SO, MATILDA ENTERED UPON A LIFE OF SHAME! AS A TRANSPORT FOR THE JAPANESE, MOVING MUNITIONS ACROSS THE BAY FROM THE MAINLAND, MATILDA DID HER WORK WELL! BUT HER HEART, LIKE THAT OF HER MASTER, WAS HEAVY AND OPPRESSED...

UNTIL ONE DAY...

WE KNOW THE JAP BATTLESHIP, HOSHIMA IS ANCHORED IN KNOWENI HARBOR! THE HOSHIMA OUTWEIGHS ANY OF OUR SHIPS OPERATING IN THAT VICINITY!



THE HOSHIMA MUST BE DESTROYED IF OUR UNITS ARE TO PATROL SAFELY NEAR THE INDIES! THAT'S YOUR JOB, CAPTAIN COMMANDO!

I'LL DO MY BEST, SIR!

LATE THAT NIGHT, A DYNAMITE-LADEN DESTROYER MOVES OUT FROM THE NAVAL BASE - - - - -



HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE TO REACH DIS PLACE? DON'T BE IN A HURRY! THERE'LL BE PLENTY TO WORRY ABOUT, WHEN WE GET THERE!



THE HOSHIMA IS UNDER PROTECTION OF LAND-BASED GUNS! IF A SHELL HITS THE DYNAMITE STORED IN THIS SHIP, OUR WORRIES WILL BE OVER... PERMANENTLY!



WHEW! YOU SAID IT!

DAD.. CAN I COME IN?

OF COURSE! I WAS JUST WRITING A LETTER, BILLY





THAT LETTER WAS FOR ME.. WASN'T IT, DAD? YOU.. YOU DON'T EXPECT TO COME BACK, DO YOU?

I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN I COULDN'T HIDE ANYTHING FROM YOU!



SOMEONE HAS TO STAY WITH THIS SHIP UNTIL IT RAMS THE HOSHIMA. I CAN'T ASK ANYONE ELSE TO TAKE THE JOB!

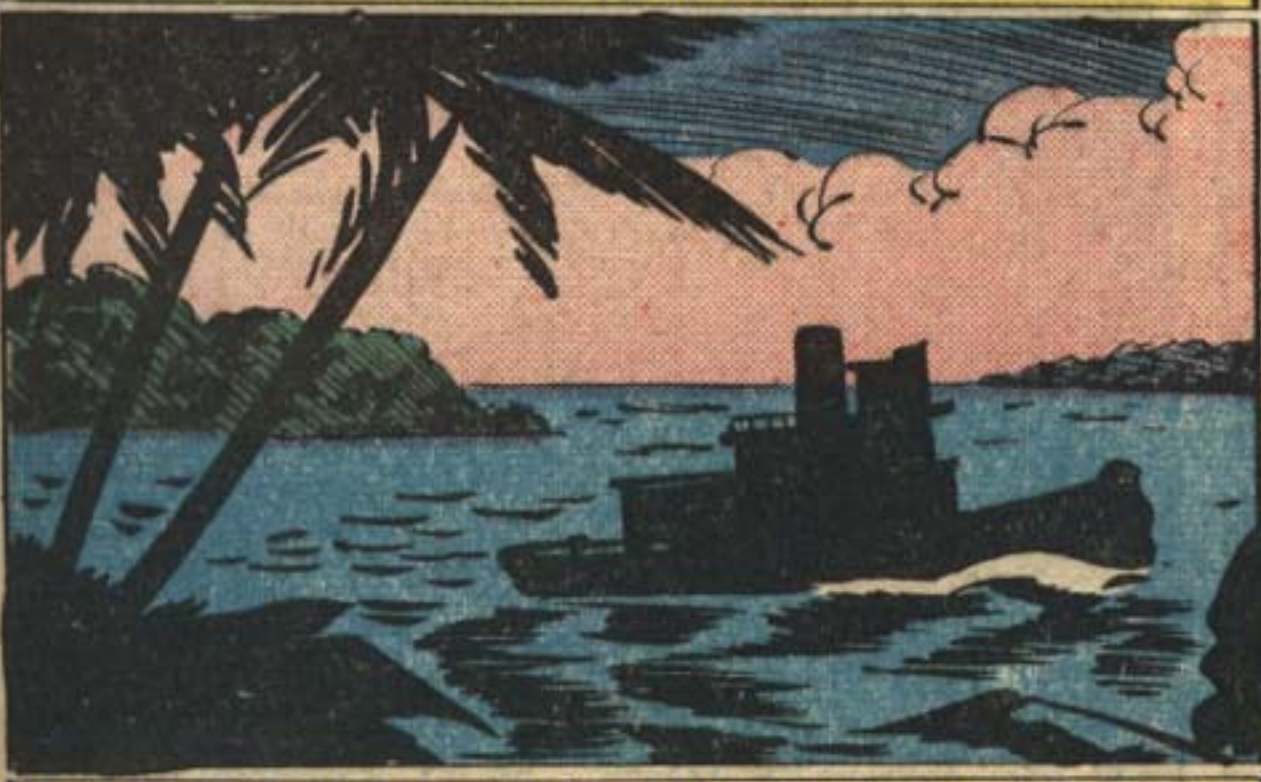
YOU.. YOU'LL BE KILLED!

THIS IS WAR, SON.. BUT LET'S NOT TALK ABOUT THIS! WE SHOULD BE GETTING NEAR KNOWEN! HARBOR!



I WISH, WE'D NEVER GET THERE!

AS THE DYNAMITE SHIP MOVES NEARER TO THE HARBOR, ANOTHER SHIP IS CASTING OFF FROM HER MOORINGS...



MATILDA IS BEGINNING ANOTHER OF HER DAILY JOURNEYS ACROSS THE BAY OF KNOWEN!----



DIS IS DER LAST TRIP FOR TONIGHT, MATILDA! DON'T BE ZO STUBBORN LIKE YOU WAS YESTERDAY!



CHUST BECAUSE DOSE LIDDLE YELLOW MEN MAKE YOU MAD AIN'T NO REASON FOR YOU TO SHTOP VORKING! YOU SHOULDN'T BE ZO TEMPERAMENTAL!

SUDDENLY, THE DYNAMITE SHIP RUNNING WITHOUT LIGHTS, LOOMS UP ON THE STARBOARD SIDE OF THE FERRYBOAT...



HEY! LOOK OUDT!

BLOWERS HOWLING WILDLY, THE DESTROYER VEERS TO AVOID COLLISION----





AND---

WHOOEY! I DON'T WANNA COME NO CLOSER TO ST. PETER THAN DAT!

WE'RE NOT SAFE YET!



THEY'LL HIT US ANY MINUTE! NO TIME TO LOWER A BOAT!

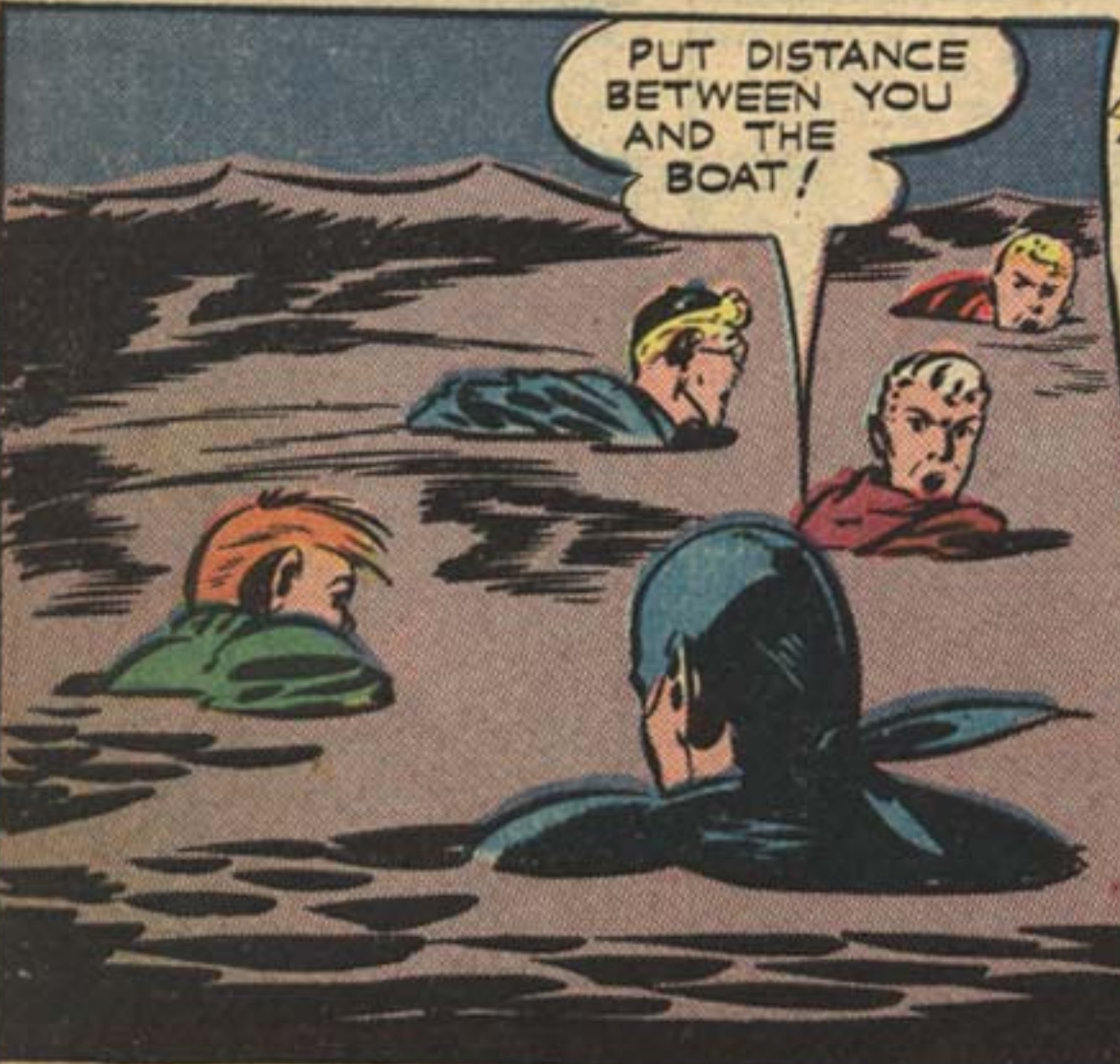
SO, WE'RE GONNA GET OUR FEET WET!



THE SHORE GUNS HAVE SPOTTED US! WE'RE GONERS!



DIVE!



PUT DISTANCE BETWEEN YOU AND THE BOAT!



SECONDS LATER...

BOOM!

THERE SHE GOES! THAT SHELL EXPLODED THE DYNAMITE!

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?



QUICKLY! MOVE THE BOAT!

DON'T GET EXZITED! MATILDA WON'T MOVE VUN INCH, UNTIL SHE MAKES UP HER MIND!



YOU HOPE TO SAVE THE COMMANDOS! BUT YOU WILL NOT LIVE TO DO IT, FAT FOOL!

OH HHH

AT THIS MOMENT..



ANY OLD PORT IN A STORM, SEZ I. AN' DIS FERRYBOAT IS AS GOOD AS ANY!



COMMANDOS!.. AGGHH



ARE YOU BADLY HURT??

NEIN!... YOU HAF COME TO BLOW UP DER HOSHIMA? I WILL HELP YOU!



BUT WHAT CAN YOU DO?

DIS SHIP... MATILDA... SHE IS LOADED WITH DYNAMITE!

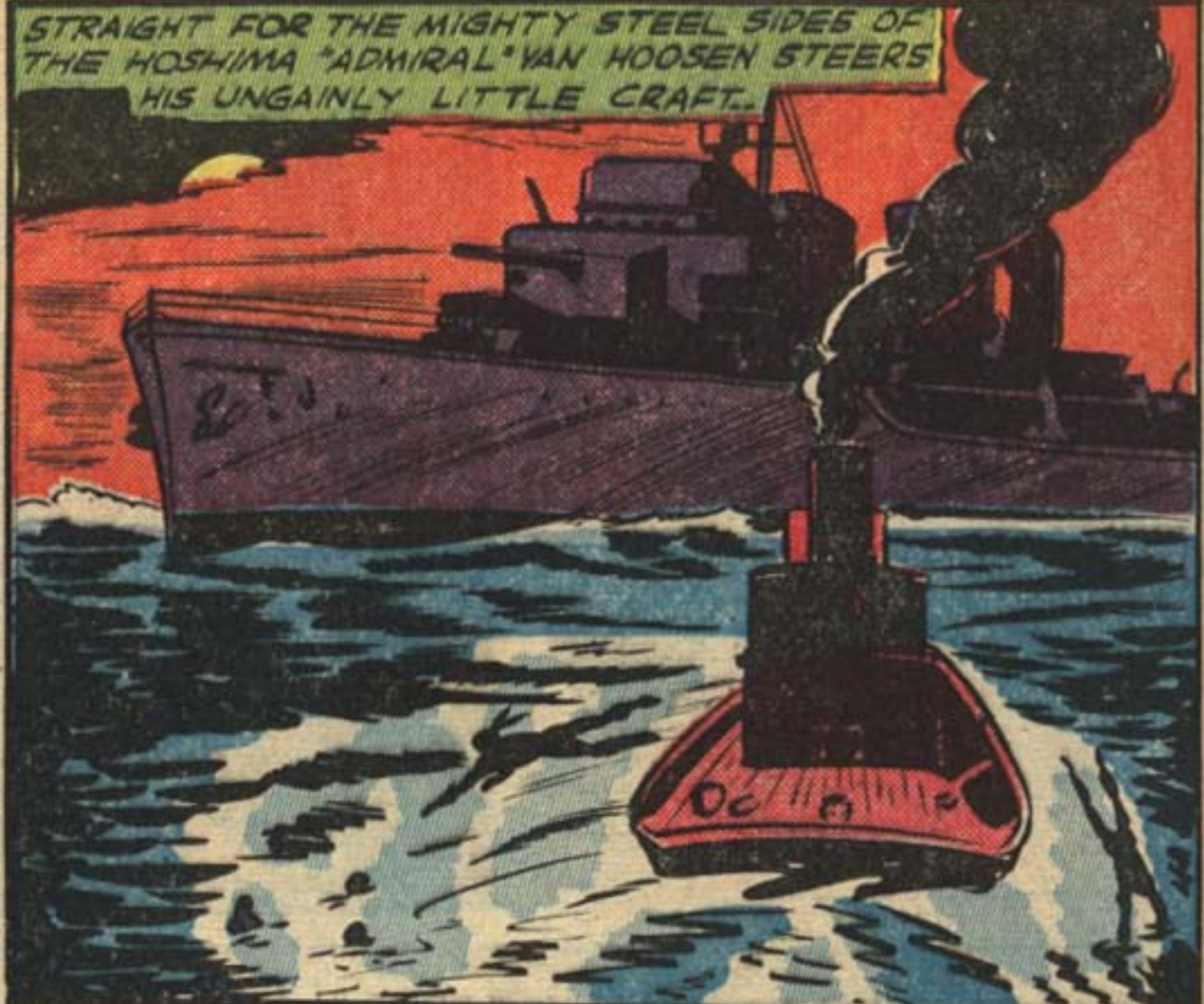


RESPONDING TO THE FAMILIAR TOUCH OF HER SKIPPER, MATILDA TURNS ASIDE AND HEADS FOR THE HOSHIMA...



BETTER LET ME TAKE THE WHEEL!

MATILDA WON'T MOVE.. FOR NOBODY.. BUT THE ADMIRAL! I VILL BE ALL RIGHT.. SAVE YOURSELF!



STRAIGHT FOR THE MIGHTY STEEL SIDES OF THE HOSHIMA "ADMIRAL" VAN HOUSEN STEERS HIS UNGAINLY LITTLE CRAFT.



MOMENTS LATER A TREMENDOUS EXPLOSION SUNDER'S THE HOSHIMA'S BELLY AS MATILDA KEEPS HER RENDEZVOUS WITH DESTINY....



LATER..

THE HOSHIMA IS FINISHED!

DAT LITTLE DUTCHMAN SURE HAD PLENTY OF MOXIE! DOSE JAPS ARE RUNNING AROUND LIKE CRAZY!

WE'LL ESCAPE BEFORE THEY NOTICE US!



WE'LL BE BACK! NEXT TIME WE'LL HAVE THE MEN AND THE SHIPS AN' PLANES TO STAY! KNOWENI HASN'T SEEN THE LAST OF US!

AND THUS IT CAME TO PASS! KNOWENI WAS FREED OF THE JAPANESE YOKE.. AND THE OLD TOWN RESUMED IT'S PEACEFUL WAYS EXCEPT FOR A SLIGHT CHANGE...

FOR NOW THERE STANDS IN THE VILLAGE SQUARE A STATUE OF A GREAT MAN, WHOSE NAME WAS KARL VAN HOUSEN, COMMANDER OF THE SHIP THAT SANK THE JAPANESE SHIP HOSHIMA!



THERE HE STANDS IN SPLENDOR WITH HIS HEROISM PERPETUATED IN BRONZE! BUT WE THINK, KNOWING KARL HENRIK WILLEM VAN HOUSEN, THAT HE MUST SOMETIMES BE LONELY FOR MATILDA...

The HANGMAN

in
DEAD MEN'S EYES TELL TALES



BOB DICKERING, AT HIS APARTMENT, PACES RESTLESSLY BEFORE THELMA GORDON....

WILL YOU LIGHT SOMEWHERE AND RELAX, BOB? YOU'RE GETTING **ME** JITTERY!



I CAN'T RELAX, THEL! FOR ONCE THE **HANGMAN** HAS FAILED! THE COLD, BLOODED MURDERER OF DUTCH KANE IS STILL AT LARGE!



SO WHAT? IT WAS ONLY ONE VICIOUS GANGSTER KILLING OFF ANOTHER! **DUTCH KANE** DESERVED TO DIE, FOR ALL HIS EVIL DEEDS!

MAYBE! BUT STILL MURDER IS MURDER! THE KILLER SHOULDN'T GO SCOT FREE!



THELMA ALONE KNOWS THAT BOB DICKERING IS ...

THE **HANGMAN!** I'M GOING TO WHERE ... ? THE FUNERAL PARLOR, WHERE **DUTCH'S** BODY LIES... SEARCH FOR CLUES! IT'S A FAINT HOPE, ANYWAY... 5' LONG!



MEANWHILE, AT THE FUNERAL PARLOR, WHERE THE MURDERED GANGSTER RESTS, A GRIM, TOMB-LIKE SILENCE PREVAILS



BUT TWO GHOULISH FIGURES HAVE INVADED THIS SANCTUM OF DEATH...

BR.R.R.R DIS PLACE GIVES ME DA CREEPS! LET'S HURRY AN' GET OUTA HERE, DOC!

SHUDDUP, RABBIT! FIND **DUTCH KANE'S** STIFF!!



HERE, DOC! DEADER'N A MACKEREL!

AHA! AND DEAD MEN TELL NO TALES. THEY SAY! THOSE DEAD LIPS CAN'T SPEAK AND TELL **WHO** KILLED HIM, CAN THEY?



BUT YET, DEAD THOUGH HE IS, DUTCH KANE WILL REVEAL HIS MURDERER! I SIMPLY REACH WITH MY FINGERS AND...

I...I CAN'T WATCH!

SQUOOSH!

AND IN THE HAND OF DOC EINSTONE LIE THE TWO GOUGED-OUT EYES OF THE DEAD MAN! WHAT POSSIBLE USE CAN THESE GHOULISH OBJECTS HAVE TO HIM?..

D.DOC! SOMEONE'S COMIN' IN DA WINDOW!

THE HANGMAN! GET HIM!

HUH? SOMEONE HERE?

OUT OF THE WAY MEDDLER!

NOT SO FAST, GENTLEMEN!

LISTEN, WE GOT NO QUARREL WITH YOU HANGMAN! LET US GO!

LET'S SEE WHO YOU ARE !!

BUT RABBIT ACTS.....

I GOT 'IM, DOC! LET'S SCRAM!

WHACK!

UGH!

OUCH! WHAT A WALLOP! THEY'RE GONE.. BUT WHO WERE THEY? WHAT WERE THEY DOING HERE?

WITH HORROR, HANGMAN SEES THE GHASTLY DEED...

WHA..? OF ALL THE SICKENING THINGS.. THEY STOLE HIS EYES!



HIS DEAD EYES.. OF ALL THINGS! NOW WHAT IN HEAVEN'S NAME CAN ANYONE WANT WITH THE EYES OF A CORPSE? AND WHAT'S THIS GOT TO DO WITH DUTCH KANE'S MURDER?



WHICH REMINDS ME, I CAME TO PICK UP CLUES ON DUTCH'S MURDER MYSELF! HMMM... LET'S SEE.. SHOT IN THE CHEST...



AH! I'VE HIT IT! THOSE BULLETS STRUCK LEFT OF THE HEART.. AND WENT IN, ASSUMING DUTCH KANE WAS FACING HIS KILLER.. THE GUN WAS HELD BY A LEFT HANDED MAN!



I ONLY KNOW TWO LEFT-HANDED GUNMEN! SO, ONE OF THOSE TWO IS THE KILLER OF DUTCH KANE! I'LL VISIT LEFTY LEECH FIRST!..



BUT WHAT OF DOC EINSTONE.. AND HIS STOLEN EYES? IN HIS HIDE-OUT, A STRANGE MACHINE WHIRRS TO LIFE...

WOT YA GONNA DO WID DA EYES, DOC? I DON'T KETCH..? YOU NEVER WILL, YOU BRAINLESS WEASEL! THIS IS MY OPTIC PROJECTOR! YOU KNOW OF COURSE THAT AT ONE TIME I WAS A BRILLIANT OPTOMETRIST!



ONE DAY I ACCIDENTALLY BLINDED A PATIENT FOR LIFE! I WAS BLACKBALLED.. BANISHED FROM MEDICAL CIRCLES! SINCE THEN, I'VE TURNED TO LESS.. ER.. ACCEPTABLE WAYS OF MAKING A LIVING!



BUT MEDICAL SCIENCE IS MISSING MY GENIUS... AND MY NEW INVENTION/I PLACE THE DEAD EYES SO, IN THE MACHINE...AND WE WILL SEE WITH THOSE DEAD EYES!



HAVE YOU EVER HEARD THE THEORY OF POST-DEATH VISION, RABBIT? BAH! WHY DO I ASK? ANYWAY, IT IS KNOWN, THAT THE LAST THING A PERSON SEES BEFORE HE DIES... STAYS ON THE RETINA OF HIS EYES INDELIBLY!



G.GOLLY! SEE? THERE IS THE LAST SCENE DUTCH KANE SAW IN LIFE!...RIGHT ON OUR SCREEN! HE WAS STARING AT THE MAN WHO MURDERED HIM... LOOK!!



AND ON THE SCREEN IS DEPICTED WHAT THE TERRIFIED BRAIN OF DUTCH KANE LAST SAW BEFORE DEATH... HIS UNKNOWN MURDERER...



HOLY COW! AS PLAIN AS DAY... DAT WAS SOUTHPAW SEARS WHO SHOT HIM!!

RIGHT, RABBIT! DUTCH HAS PUT THE FINGER ON HIS OWN KILLER, JUST AS SURELY AS IF HE'D TOLD US ALOUD!



AND NOW TO DA SHAKEDOWN, EH DOC? HE'LL PAY PLENTY TO KEEP US FROM SQUEALING TO DA COPS! HA, HA, WOT A SWEET RACKET!



HELLO, SOUTHPAW!

WHO ARE YOU? WHADDYA WANT? MAKE IT SNAPPY!



I WANT MONEY, SOUTHPAW! HUSH MONEY! OR SHOULD I INFORM THE POLICE, THAT YOU SHOT DUTCH KANE DEAD??

WHY, YOU DIRTY...



MEANWHILE, THE HANGMAN ARRIVES!
IT WASN'T LEFTY LEECH...SO IT MUST BE SOUTHPAW SEARS..HEY! SOUNDS LIKE A FIGHT IN THERE!



OKAY, I BUMPED OFF DUTCH! SO, I'LL SHUT YER MOUTH TOO, DOC EINSTONE....!



THANKS FOR THE CONFESSION, SOUTHPAW!



LET HIM GO! HE'S MINE! I GET THE REWARD FROM THE POLICE!

YOU? SORRY, PAL... I'VE BEEN ON THIS CASE FROM THE START! THE REWARD GOES TO CHARITY!



CHARITY.. BAH! I WAS ROBBED!

HEY, WAIT! HOW DID YOU KNOW, SOUTHPAW KILLED DUTCH?



WERE THOSE THE TWO I RAN INTO, IN THE FUNERAL PARLOR?...WHO STOLE THE DEAD EYES? Hmm.. WISH I'D STOPPED THEM...OH, WELL, I'VE GOT DUTCH'S KILLER!



THE NEXT EVENING AT THELMA'S PLACE..

NOW, WHAT'S WRONG, BOB? YES, BUT WHAT ABOUT THOSE OTHER TWO.. THE KILLER DOC EINSTONE OF DUTCH AND RABBIT? KANE, WHAT ARE THEY UP TO.. THOSE DEAD EYES..?



THAT NIGHT, AT THE CITY MORGUE, CRAMMED WITH CORPSES..

EYES! DEAD EYES..LOTS OF 'EM! THAT'S WHAT WE WANT!

HURRY, DOC!





HEY! WHO'S HERE?

DA WATCHMAN!



DON'T SHOOT, YOU IDIOT.. THAT'S A MURDER RAP..!

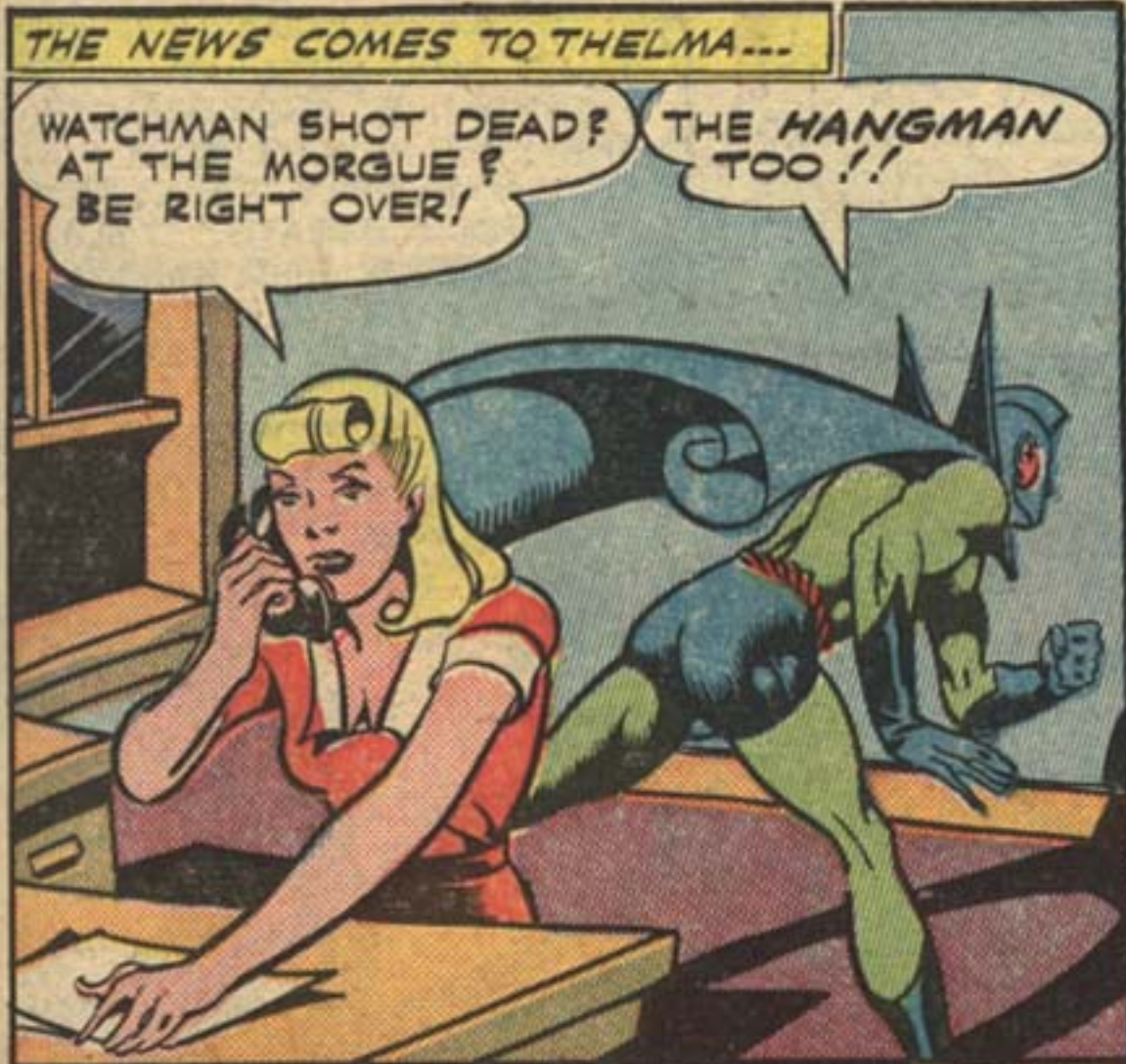
AGH!!

BANG



I SHOT BEFORE I STOPPED TA THINK!

FOOL./ BUT TOO LATE NOW/ WE HAVE ENOUGH EYES.. LET'S GO



THE NEWS COMES TO THELMA...

WATCHMAN SHOT DEAD? AT THE MORGUE? BE RIGHT OVER!

THE HANGMAN TOO!!



AT THE MORGUE..

I'M NEAR SICK! WHOEVER DONE IT STOLE ALL TH' EYES OUTA THEM STIFFS!

HORRIBLE!

EYES?



DOC EINSTONE.. HIS WORK! BUT I DON'T KNOW HIS HIDE-OUT!

A HARDER NUT TO CRACK THAN BEFORE!



MEANWHILE, THE GHOULISH PAIR ONCE MORE MAKE USE OF THE STRANGE MACHINE..

HAW! REMEMBER THAT UNSOLVED HATCHET MURDER OF A WEEK AGO, RABBIT? NOW WE KNOW WHO DID IT!



BLACKMAIL AGAIN! WE CAN SHAKE HIM DOWN FOR PLENTY.. OR TURN HIM IN TO THE POLICE FOR A REWARD!

G.GULP! I JUST HAPPENED TA THINK, DOC!



DAT WATCHMAN I RUBBED OUT SAW ME LAST! I GOTTA TAKE HIS EYES AWAY!

STOP, YOU FOOL! THE POLICE HAVEN'T GOT THIS MACHINE!!



DA COPS PANIC-STRICKEN THAT DEAD EYES MIGHT BETRAY HIM TOO, RABBIT SNEAKS BACK IN THE MORGUE.. MAKE THAT MACHINE! HOW DO I KNOW? I GOTTA GET DEM EYES!



I GOTTA DO IT.. GOTTA.. HUH? D.. DA HANGMAN!

YES, RABBIT, YOUR HANGMAN!



WOT'S DIS AROUND MY NECK.. A NOOSE! NO... NO!!!

YOU CAN'T TEAR IT AWAY, RABBIT! THE ROPE IS SOAKED IN A SOLUTION, THAT MAKES IT CONTRACT! IT'S TIGHTENING... TIGHTENING...!



CAN'T YOU FEEL IT TIGHTENING.. CHOKING OFF THE LIFE IN YOUR BODY & SLOWLY, SLOWLY, IT'S CUTTING OFF YOUR BREATH! IT'S A MURDERER'S END, RABBIT.. DYING WITH YOUR LUNGS BURSTING!



LOOSEN IT.. TAKE IT OFF... GASP! I'LL TALK.. I MURDERED DA GUY! DAT'S WOT YA WANT ME TO SAY... GASP!... TAKE IT OFF!

ONE MORE THING.. RABBIT.. WHERE'S DOC'S HIDE-OUT?



SYCAMORE ST.... FIRST ALLEY... BROWN HOUSE.. OH H H H H...

FAINTED, THE PITIFUL WRETCH!

FUNNY, WHAT THE POWER OF IMAGINATION WILL DO! IT WASN'T SOAKED IN ANY SOLUTION! IT'S A PLAIN NOOSE! IT DIDN'T TIGHTEN AT ALL! RABBIT JUST BELIEVED IT DID!

BUT NOW TO PUT THE NOOSE AROUND DOC EINSTONE'S NECK!



MEANWHILE, DOC HITS A STUNNING REVELATION WITH HIS DEATH-SCENES FROM DEAD EYES....

WOW! WHAT A FIND! SOME DYING THUG... PROBABLY SHOT BY POLICE.. SAW ONE LAST THING BEFORE HE DIED.. SAW THE HANGMAN CHANGING TO HIS CIVILIAN IDENTITY, BUT WHO IS IT?



HIS FACE.. NOT QUITE CLEAR! I'LL TRY THE OTHER EYE OF THAT PAIR.. FOR A BETTER FOCUS!



NOW, FOR THE GREATEST SECRET OF ALL! THE HANGMAN'S SECRET IDENTITY!



SORRY, BUD! IT'S LIGHTS OUT FOR YOU.. YOU'LL NEVER KNOW!!



WHEW! ONLY A PAIR OF A DEAD MAN'S EYES EVER SAW MY CHANGE... AND THEY VERY NEARLY GAVE ME AWAY!!



BUT THE MACHINE ITSELF, BOB.. THE POLICE WOULD FIND IT VALUABLE FOR EXPOSING CRIME!



YES.. EXCEPT THAT IT BLEW APART A MOMENT LATER! SOME PART MUST HAVE BEEN DEFECTIVE! SOME OTHER SCIENTIST WILL HAVE TO FIND THE WAY TO MAKE DEAD MEN'S EYES TELL TALES!!



THE GHOST OF HENRY SCHMIDT

A SHIELD STORY

By VIVIAN

“Aaaaaaahhhhh. . . .”

Joe Higgins and Dusty were taking their daily evening walk past the beautiful estate of the big chemical magnate, J. K. Burke, when that scream pierced the air with a blood-curdling shrillness.

“Hurry, Dusty, it came from the Burke Mansion,” shouted Joe Higgins, quickly doffing his outer clothing, and emerging as the Shield. Together the Shield and Dusty ran for the huge house, which was situated high on a sloping hill. They arrived at the top of the hill just in time to see an eerily glowing figure disappear down the other side of the hill and be swallowed up by the adjoining forest.

“Forget about that fellow, Dusty. We must find the person who screamed. The forest is too thick to find anyone hiding in it anyhow!”

“Right, Shield. Look, this front door is open!” Dusty exclaimed, as he pushed the impressive oak door, which gave way under his touch.

Together, the Shield and Dusty advanced into the Burke mansion, which was huge inside, and ornamented with over-decorative antiques. Servants of all descriptions were running upstairs, and talking excitedly to each other. They were so pre-

occupied, they didn't notice the Shield and Dusty follow them up the winding marble stairs, into an attic room which seemed more like a closet than the type of room one would expect to see in the house of a wealthy man.

An uncertain light was sifting from the moon through an iron-barred window, the only window in the room. J. K. Burke was slumped over in a corner chair, his hand held over his heart. He was gasping for breath, but managing to talk between gasps.

“It came . . . the ghost . . . it came!”

The many servants crowded around Burke, in an attempt to help him. The Shield and Dusty pushed their way through the throng of servants. They went over to Burke, who looked at them with a glimpse of recognition in his terror-stricken eyes.

“Are you all right, Mr. Burke?” demanded the Shield.

“Yes . . . I'm all right . . . just badly frightened . . . send all these servants away, please . . . I want to talk to you . . . Shield . . . I've heard about you . . .”

Dusty turned to the domestic employees, and said, “You've all heard what Mr. Burke has asked. Please clear the room, everyone.”

When Burke was left alone with The Shield and Dusty, he started to explain the cause of the scream which had issued from his lips.

“I feel better now. I've just had a terrible experience,” he began. “The ghost of one of my dead chemists is after me. It has already killed my two partners. Henry Schmidt is his name . . . the chemist's, I mean. It was horrible . . . horrible . . . !”

Burke shuddered as he recalled his recent trial.

“Steady now,” said the Shield, as he laid an encouraging hand on the frightened man's shoulder. “Now, start from the beginning, and tell us what this is all about.”

“Only last night Schmidt's ghost came into my room. I ran, but I couldn't get away from it. It kept following me. I had this room built for safety, but it didn't help!” The great chemical manufacturer became a timid, trembling creature as he continued with his story. “I'll tell you exactly what happened. The police have been unable to do anything, but I hope you can, Shield.”

Before this war started, our laboratories discovered a new type of explosive, the most deadly ever conceived by any man. Schmidt, one of our laboratory technicians, and a very brilliant scientist, demanded to

know the entire formula on the grounds that his research had a direct bearing on the discovery of this explosive. Well, we checked up on him. We found that he was intending to sell the formula to Germany, which aside from being unscrupulous, would have been disastrous for the entire world. We notified the proper authorities, and the police went to his home. But when they reached there, they found that he had barricaded the house against them. When they finally did break in, they found him dead. Only his assistant was there."

"One moment," interrupted the Shield. "What makes you think that it's Schmidt's ghost that is haunting you? That is, if a ghost IS haunting you!"

"Schmidt called up my partners and myself while the police were attempting to break into his house. He promised us that his ghost would come back to get us. Then when his ghost came back last night, it kept chasing me from room to room, telling me to bury the formula next to his grave!"

"Next to his grave!" Dusty exclaimed. "Where was he buried?"

"Right next to his own home. His assistant buried him."

Burke covered his face with his hands and continued. "It was a ghastly looking thing, his ghost . . . shining all over with a radiant light."

After a moment of thought, the Shield started for the door of the attic room.

"Come on, Dusty. I've a hunch that we should pay the

late Henry Schmidt a visit. One question before I leave, Mr. Burke. What happened to your partners?"

"That is the most tragic part of my story. They have both been found dead of heart attack during the past month."

"Well, that fits right into my theory. Good! Don't worry, Mr. Burke, we'll have your "ghost" for you soon."

The Shield and Dusty rushed over to Henry Schmidt's home. After exploring the adjoining private graveyard, they entered the seemingly deserted home. Stalking around for a while, they came upon a singularly ugly man, who was in the process of wiping phosphorus from his body, which was still glowing in spots.

"Your little plot has been discovered, Henry Schmidt!" snapped the Shield in a cold voice.

The man whipped around, a look of startled surprise on his face. The color slowly drained from his face as he recognized the Shield and Dusty.

"It was very clever of you to induce a state of catalepsy, or temporary death, in yourself, scientist Schmidt. Then have a specially constructed grave built before you put your devilish plan of "death" into effect. We just finished exploring your "grave" and found a tunnel leading from the coffin to your house. Very ingenious and tricky, but it has been discovered like so many other crime plots. However, Schmidt, your foulest idea, which unfor-

tunately you have had the chance to put into effect, was the causing of catalepsy in Burke's two partners. You caused those men to be buried alive, when the doctors mistook the catalepsy for heart failure. Of course, if you had gotten the formula, Germany would have paid you handsomely for it. To a brilliant but warped brain like yours, it means nothing to sacrifice millions of people for money! But society shall see that you pay for your crime."

Then Dusty added, "Your attempt to appear as a ghost by covering your body with phosphorescent paint was pretty bad. It's been used too many times in detective stories. Any amateur detective could see through it!"

Schmidt looked wildly about him, desperately hunting for a chance to escape. His eye lighted on a nearby window, and he made a lunge for it. The Shield made a flying tackle, and Schmidt collapsed to the floor.

Later, after Schmidt was delivered into the hands of the police, the Shield and Dusty were explaining what happened to Mr. Burke.

"Schmidt probably had trouble with his conscience, when immediately after his "death" Germany declared war. He probably realized the horrible result for the world, if Germany did obtain the formula, but the money they offered him proved to be too much of a temptation. Like all other criminals, he is discovering that no matter how clever the crime, it is bound to be found out."

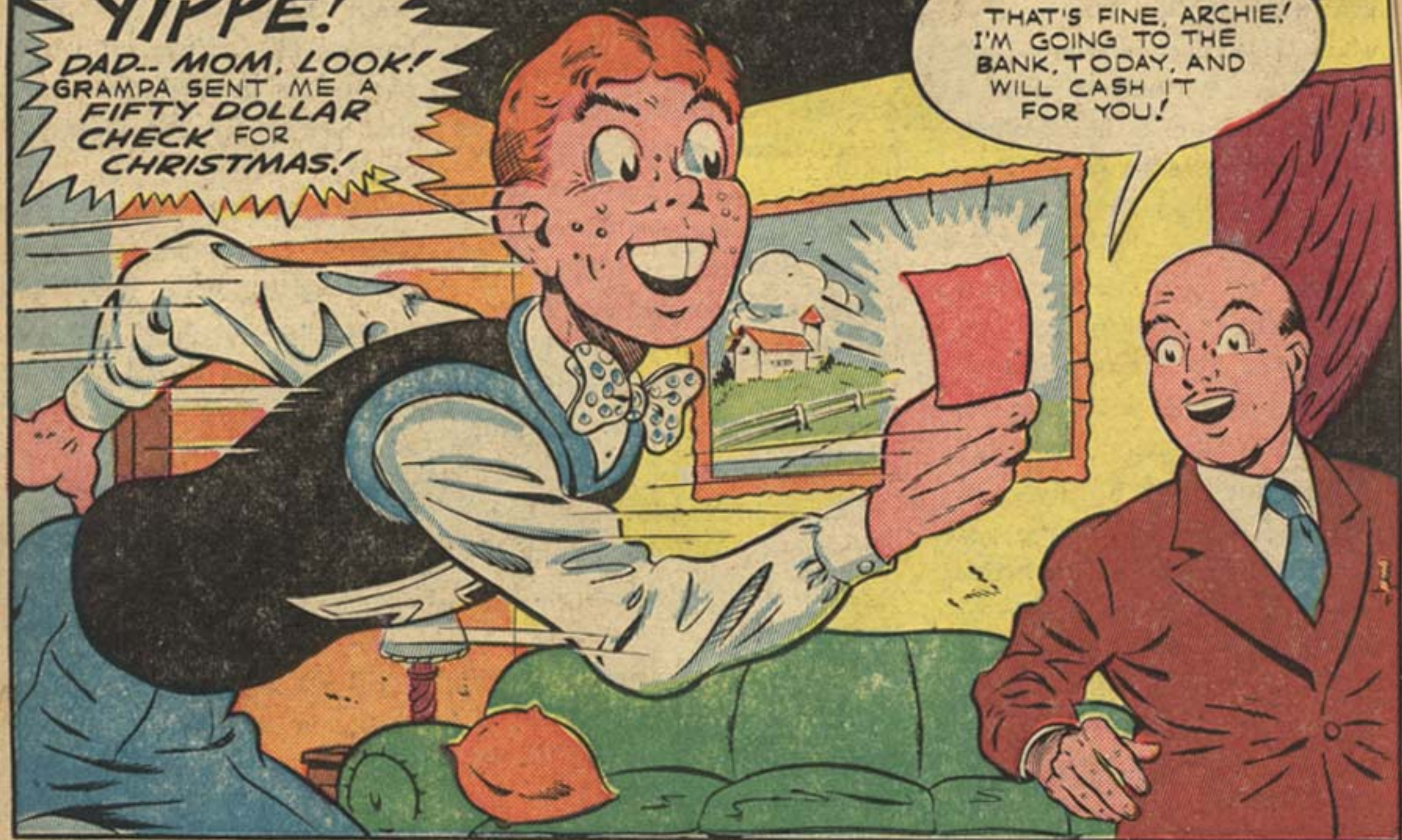
Archie

In Christmas Cheers

YIPPE!

DAD.. MOM, LOOK!
GRAMPA SENT ME A
FIFTY DOLLAR
CHECK FOR
CHRISTMAS!

THAT'S FINE, ARCHIE!
I'M GOING TO THE
BANK, TODAY, AND
WILL CASH IT
FOR YOU!



HMM...LET'S SEE NOW...
BETTY..SWEATER SET.. \$ 10.00
VERONICA.. NEGLIGEE.. 10.00
JUGHEAD..ICE SKATES.. 10.00
OSCAR..NEW DOG HOUSE..10.00
ARCHIE ..SPORT JACKET.. 10.00
\$ 50.00

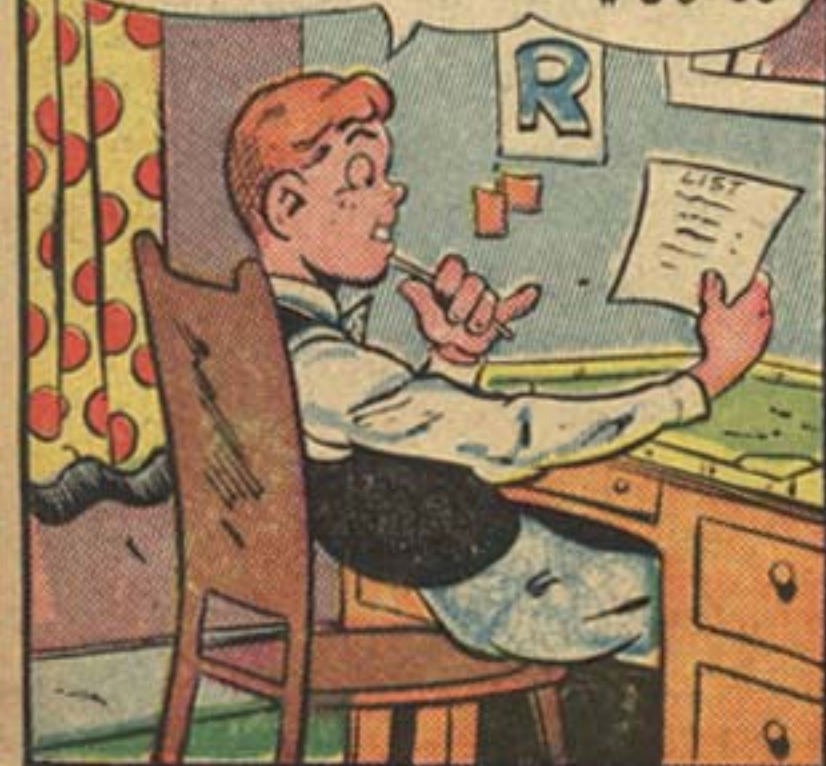
LATER-

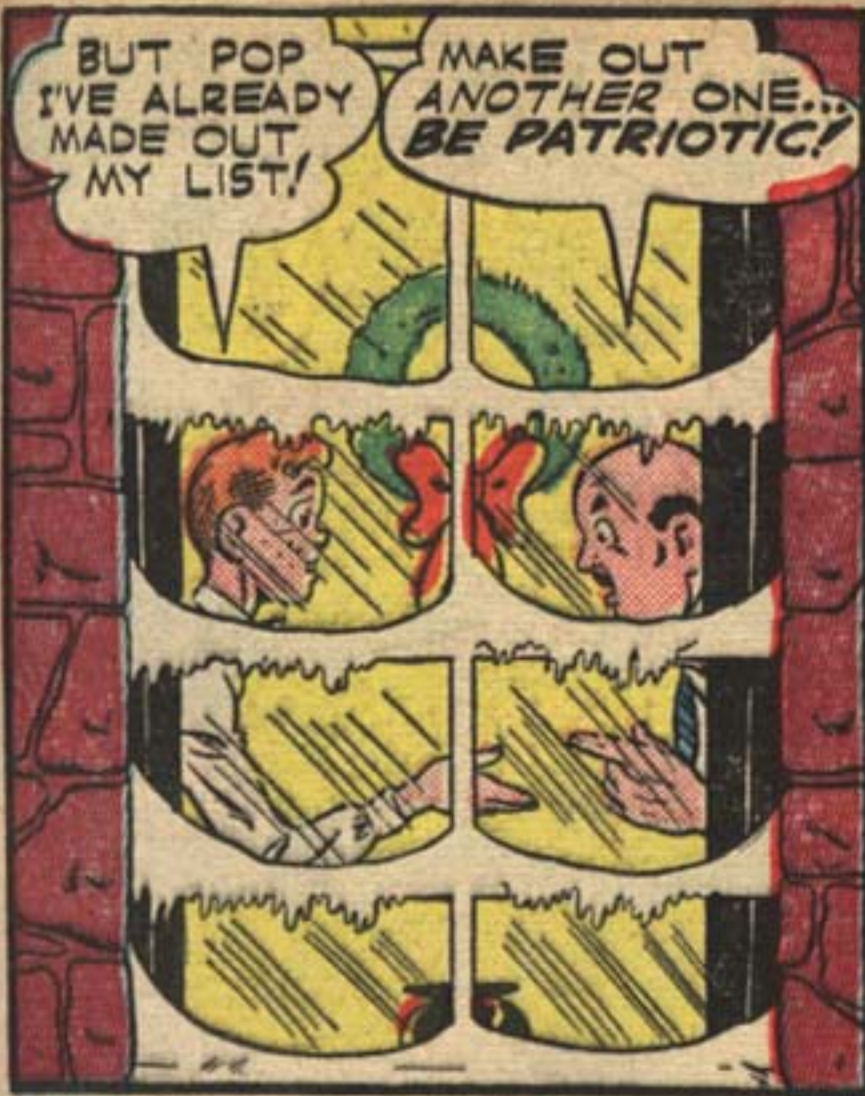
WHAT'S THE
MATTER, ARCHIE?
DID I SHORT
CHANGE
YOU?

BUT, POP!
I GAVE YOU
A FIFTY
DOLLAR
CHECK TO
CASH, AND
I ONLY
HAVE
\$31.25!

YOU'VE A LOT MORE,
SON... AND I'M SURE
UNCLE SAM IS
MIGHTY GRATEFUL
FOR WHAT YOU'VE
DONE....

OH....





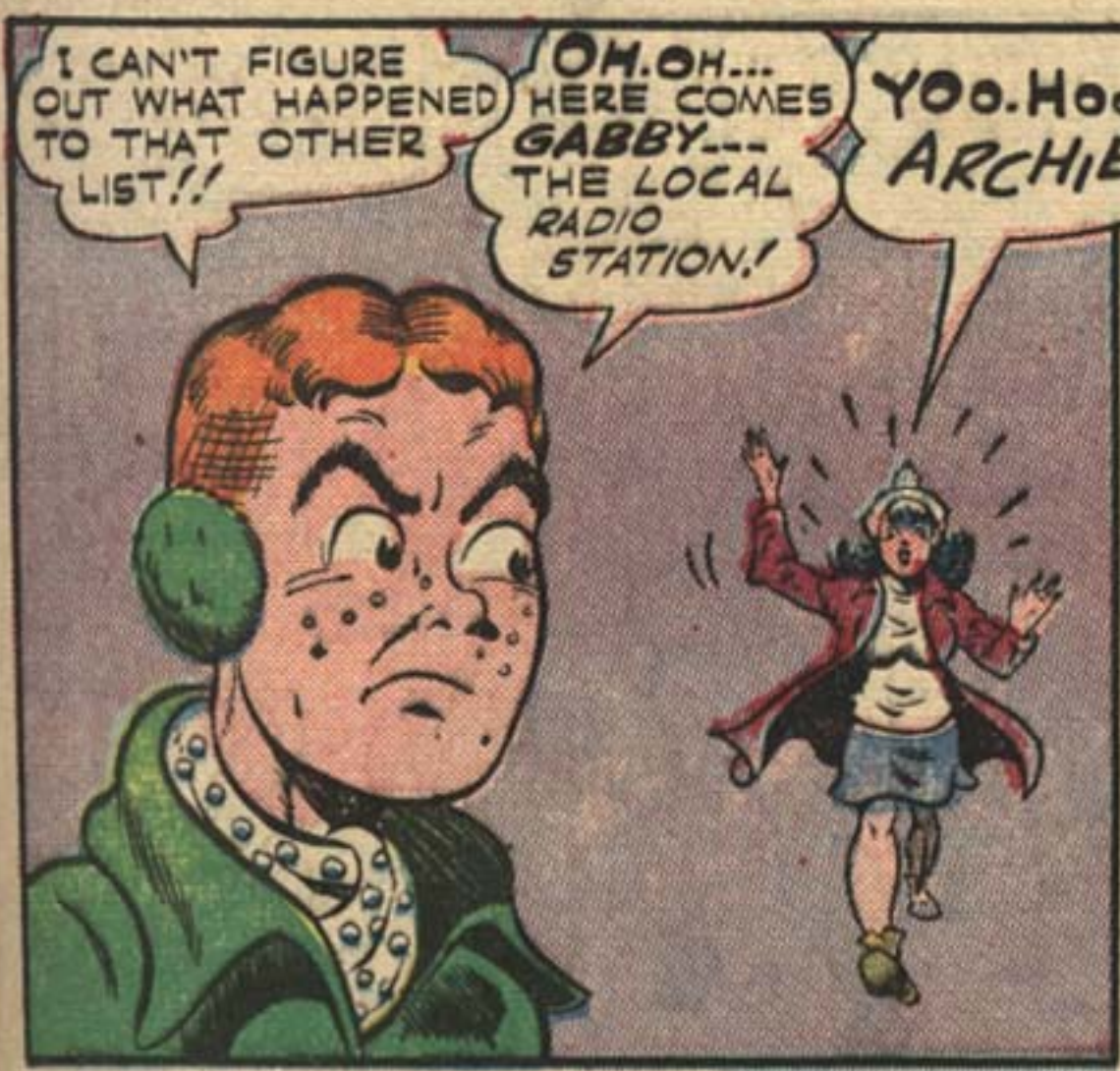
BUT POP I'VE ALREADY MADE OUT MY LIST!

MAKE OUT ANOTHER ONE... BE PATRIOTIC!

MEANWHILE -



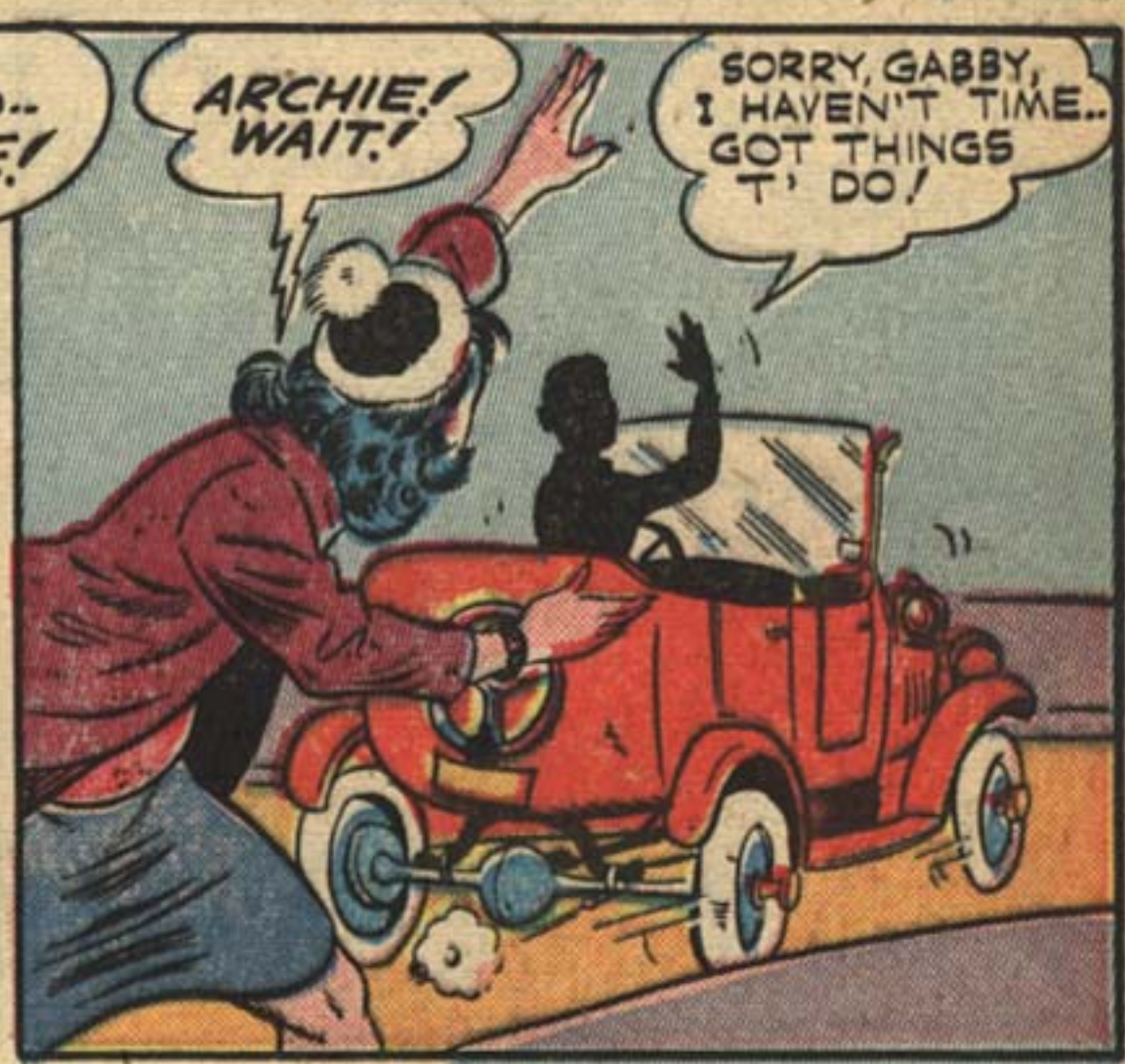
WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO MY OTHER LIST..OH, WELL, I'LL MAKE A NEW ONE ANYWAY.... \$31.25 LEFT! LET'S SEE... JUGHEAD A PAIR OF CLAMP-ON SKATES..OSCAR A DOG BLANKET.. AND I'LL JUST GET A SWEATER!!



I CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT OTHER LIST!!

OH.OH... HERE COMES GABBY... THE LOCAL RADIO STATION!

YOO.HOO... ARCHIE!

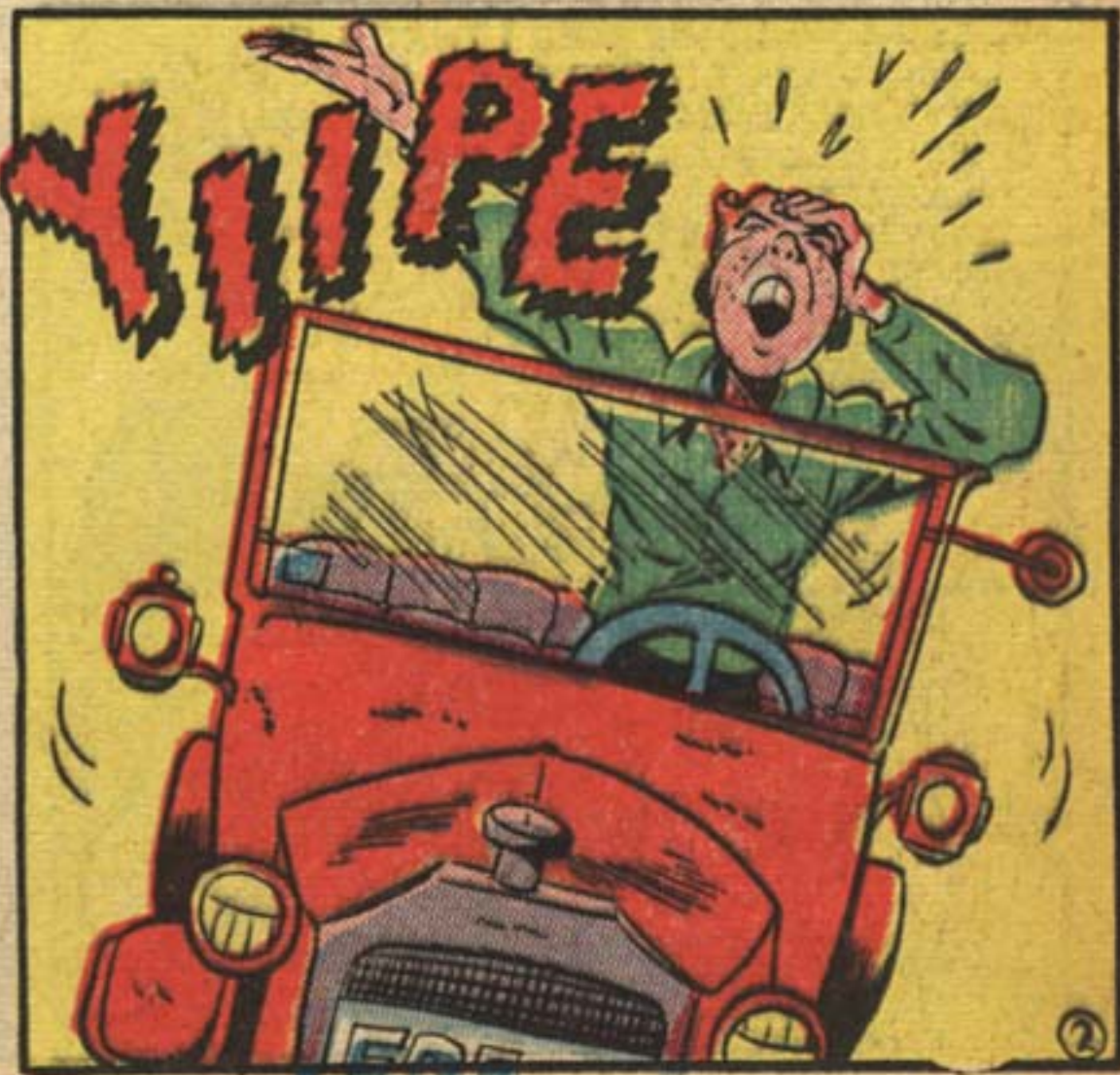


ARCHIE! WAIT!

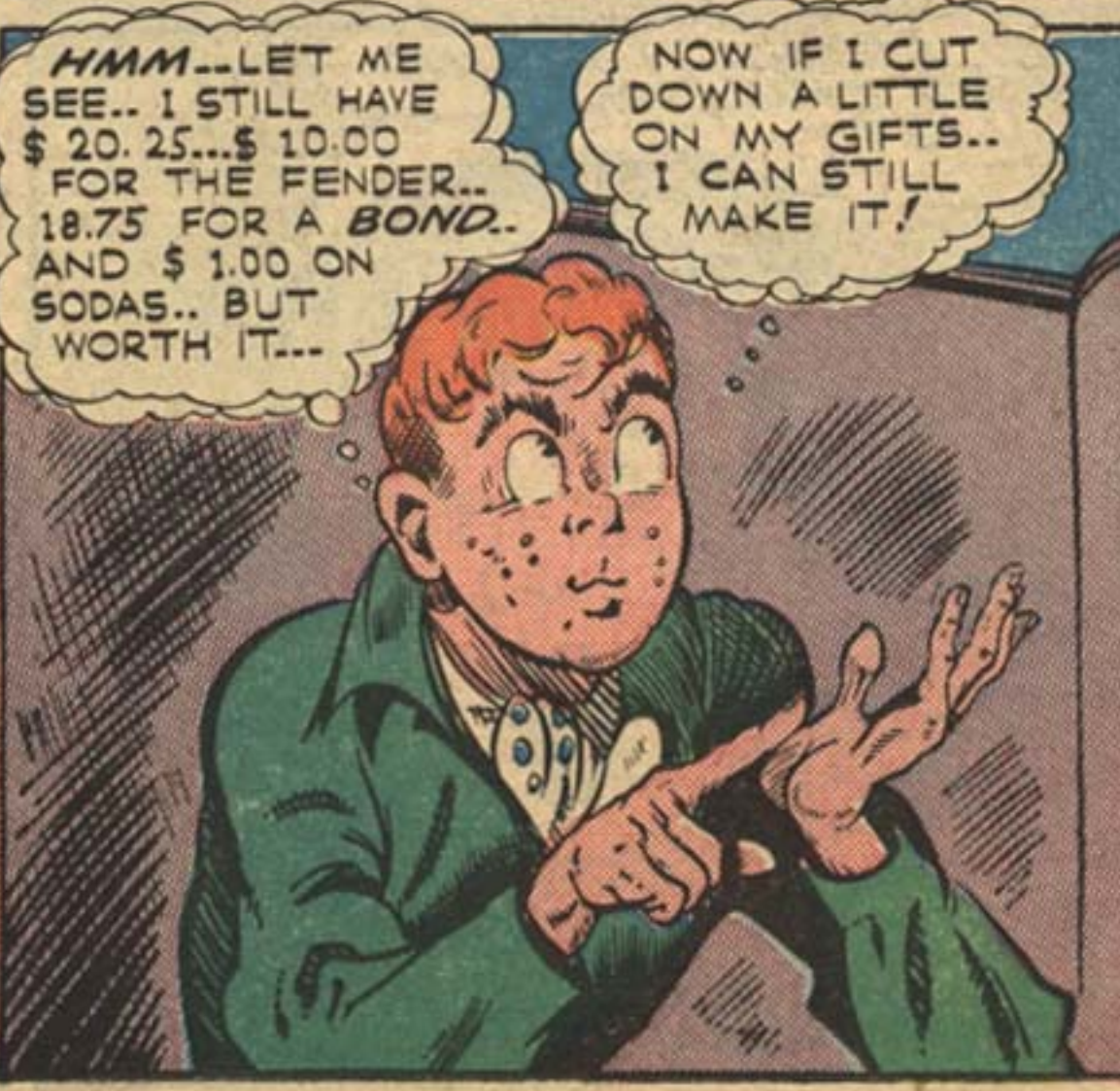
SORRY, GABBY, I HAVEN'T TIME.. GOT THINGS T' DO!



BUT, ARCHIE, I FOUND YOUR CHRISTMAS LIST!



WIIPE



SEE WHAT YOU'VE DONE! I HAD TO PAY TEN DOLLARS, ON ACCOUNT OF YOU!

DON'T SHOUT! REMEMBER I STILL HAVE YOUR CHRISTMAS LIST!

HEH, HEH... WOULD YOU CARE FOR A SODA AT TATES, GABBY?

I MOST CERTAINLY WOULD... LET'S GO!!

WELL! I FEEL BETTER NOW... AND DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT LIST... I WON'T TELL A SOUL, HONEST!

THAT'S FINE, GABBY... I'D BE IN AN AWFUL JAM, IF YOU MENTIONED IT TO ANYONE!

HMM... LET ME SEE... I STILL HAVE \$ 20.25... \$ 10.00 FOR THE FENDER... 18.75 FOR A BOND... AND \$ 1.00 ON SODAS... BUT WORTH IT...

NOW IF I CUT DOWN A LITTLE ON MY GIFTS... I CAN STILL MAKE IT!

CHRISTMAS
EVE...

I HATE SHOWING
UP AT THE PARTY
WITH THESE MEASLY
GIFTS..GULP! GOOD
THING THE GANG
DON'T KNOW, WHAT
I REALLY WAS
GONNA BUY 'EM!

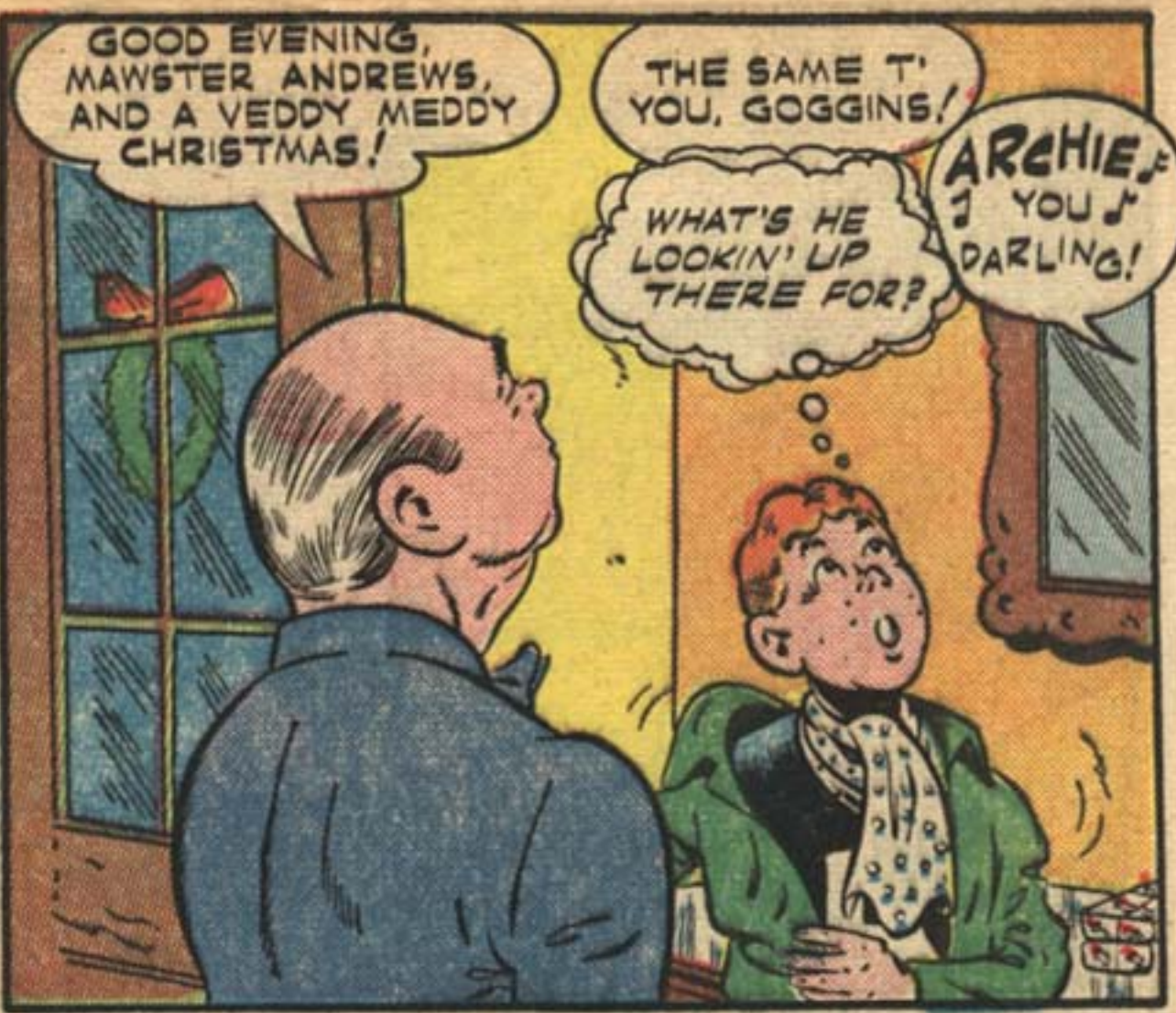


GOOD EVENING,
MAWSTER ANDREWS,
AND A VEDDY MEDDY
CHRISTMAS!

THE SAME T'
YOU, GOGGINS!

WHAT'S HE
LOOKIN' UP
THERE FOR?

ARCHIE!
YOU
DARLING!



GEE, BUT YOU'RE
WONDERFUL.. AND THIS
IS FOR THAT LOVELY
NEGLIGEE.. MMM..

?



SO, IT WAS YOU
WHO TOLD HER
THAT !! YOU, AND
YOUR BIG MOUTH!
WHO ELSE DID
YOU TELL?

G. GOSH,
ARCHIE, I
ONLY TOLD..

ARCHIE,
OH, ARCHIE!



YOU'RE A SWEET,
SWEET BOY... MM...
THANKS FOR
THE SWEATER
SET!.....

?



SAY! BLABBER
PUSS! WHO ELSE
DID YOU TELL?

ARCHIE!
HI-YA-
PAL!

WELL...
ONLY..





HEY! YOU'RE NOT GONNA KISS ME TOO???

NAW... I JUST WANNA THANK YOU FOR THOSE ICE SKATES I HEAR YOU GOT ME!



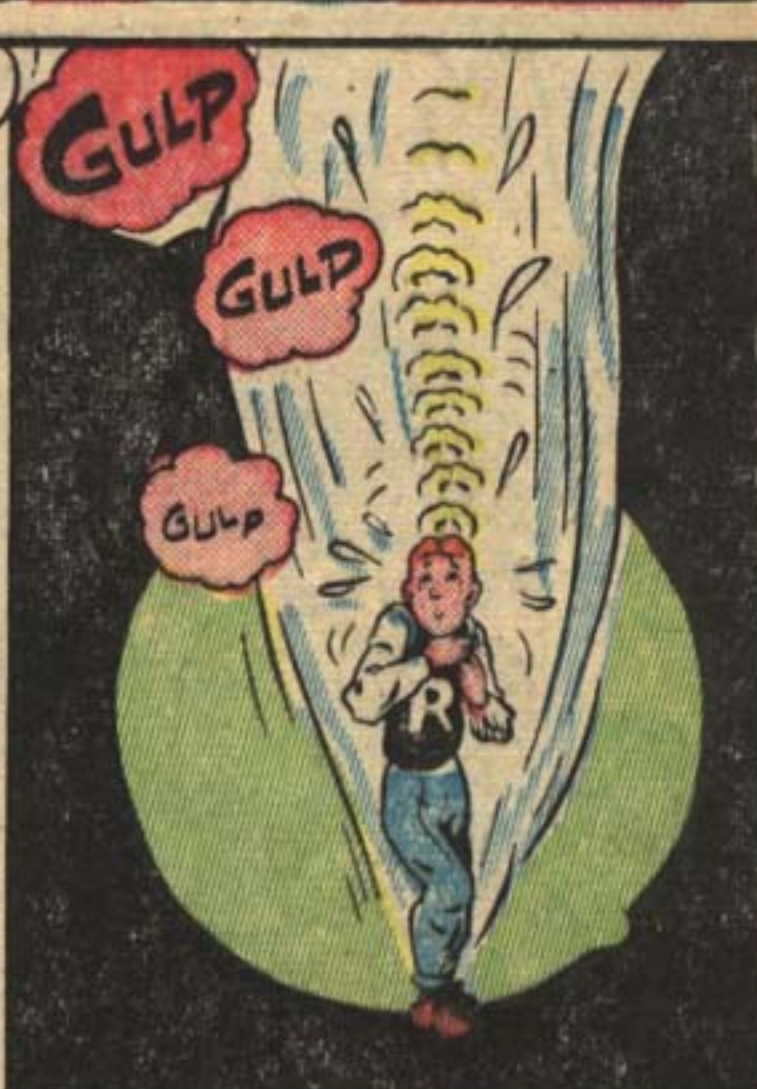
GATHER 'ROUND KIDS... LET'S OPEN OUR PACKAGES!



NOW TO SEE MY... OH--- A KERCHIEF!

IMAGINE ARCHIE GETTING ME.. OH----- HANKIES....

HUH? THESE DON'T LOOK LIKE ICE SKATES!



GULP

GULP

GULP



THAT'S NO PLACE FOR ME.. GULP! SNIFF.. SNIFF...



OSCAR, OLE PAL... I COULDN'T GET YOU THAT NEW DOGHOUSE.. BUT I DID GET THIS BONE!



GOSH, YOU'RE A SWELL DOG, OSCAR... YOU NEVER EXPECT TOO MUCH... SNIFF... MERRY CHRISTMAS... SNIFF ... SNIFF....



ARCHIE! WHAT'D YOU RUN AWAY FOR??



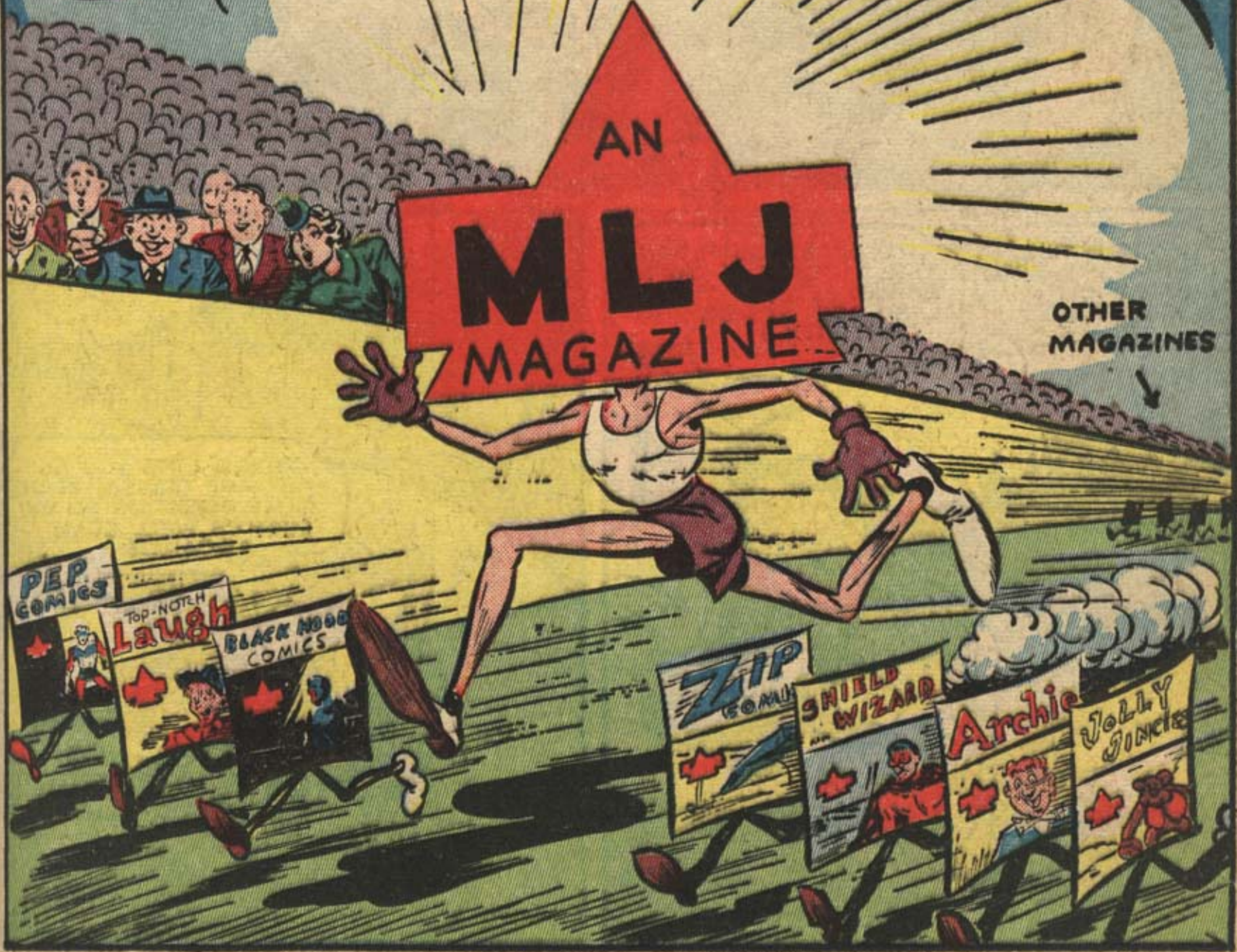
DON'T YOU KNOW, IT'S NOT THE GIFT, BUT THE THOUGHT! C'MON RIDING IN OUR SLEIGH....

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYBODY!!



SAHLE! GINGER-

WALLY STORY BY GOGGIN + SAHLE



AN
MLJ
MAGAZINE

OTHER
MAGAZINES

PEP
COMICS

TOP-NOTH
Laugh

BLACK NOOD
COMICS

ZIP
COMICS

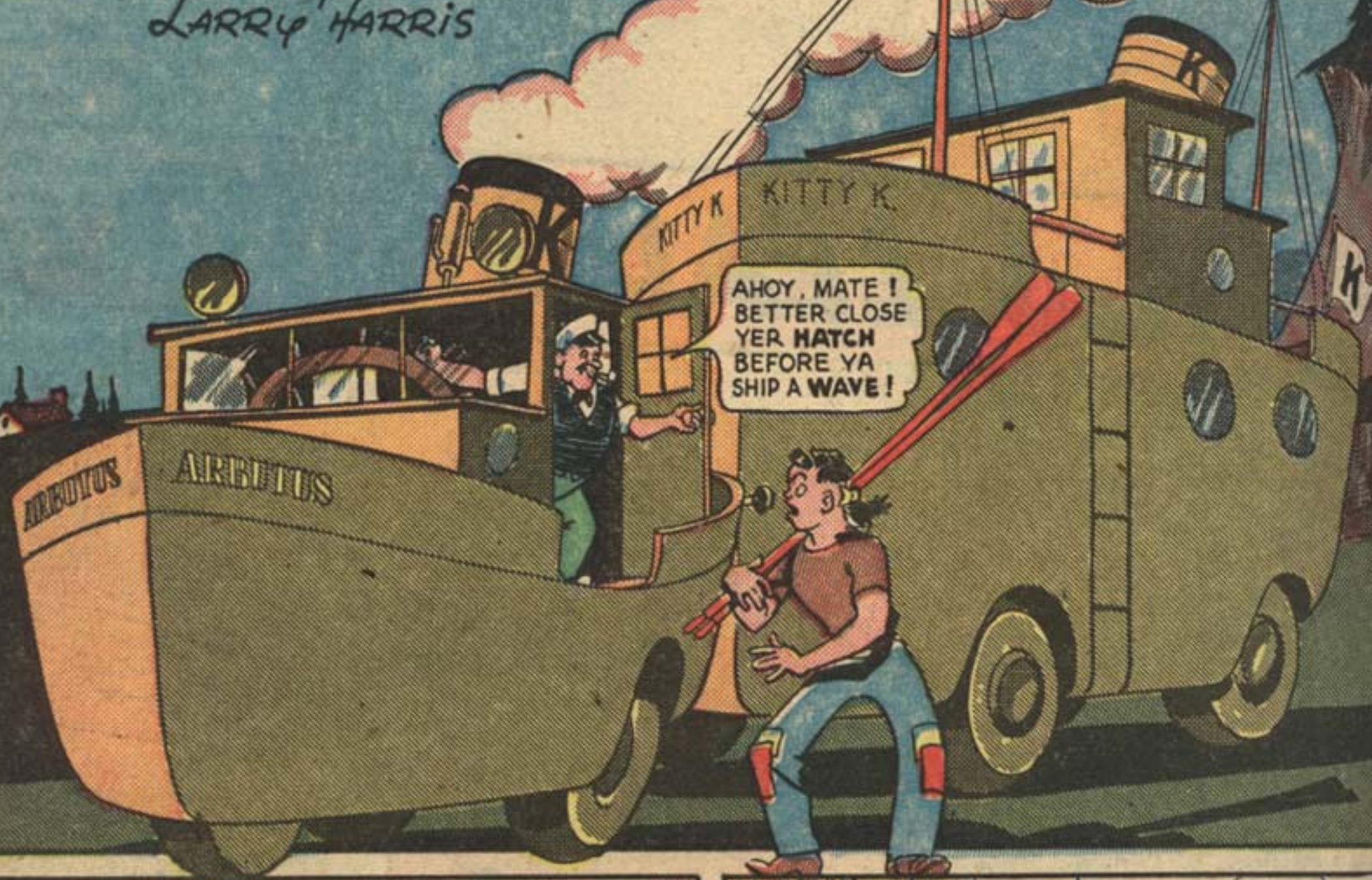
SHIELD
WIZARD

Archie

Jolly
JONKES

Catfish Joe

By
LARRY HARRIS



MISTER, IS THIS
CONTRAPSHUN REAL
OR AM I HAVIN'
A NIGHTMARE?

IT'S REAL ENOUGH, SON!
YER A-LOOKIN' AT CAP'N
BARNEY KEEL AN' TH' ONLY
LAND GOIN' TUGBOAT IN
CAPTIVITY!



'PEARS LIKE YOU AN'
ME ARE CRUISIN' IN TH'
SAME DIRECTION SO YOU
MIGHT'S WELL COME
ABOARD!





GOSH, CAP'N, DID YOU COME VERY FAR IN THIS THING?

ALL TH' WAY FROM BOSTON HARBOR! ME AN' TH' OL' ARBUTUS GOT TIRED LOOKIN' AT TH' SAME OLD DOCKS AN' WAREHOUSES SO WE GOT US A SET O' WHEELS AN' STARTED OUT FER A CHANGE OF SCENERY!

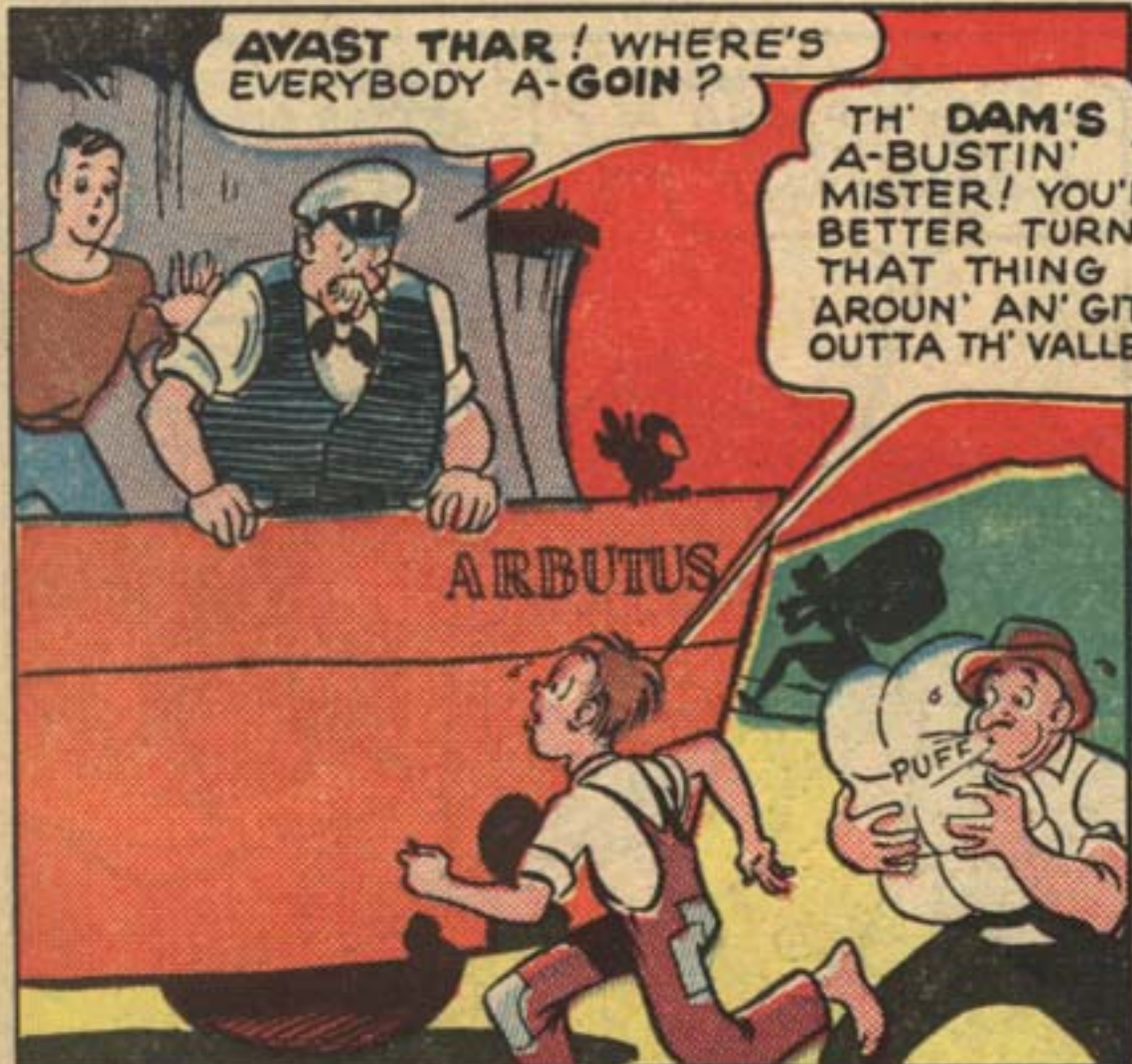


AN' THAT SHIP WE'RE A-TOWIN' IS TH' "KITTY K"— SHE'S FIXED UP FER SLEEPIN' AN' EATIN' INSIDE JES' LIKE A HOUSE! WE'RE AIMIN' T' SPEND TH' WINTER DOWN IN THAT SUNNY SOUTH I'VE HEERD SO MUCH ABOUT!



I'M A SHANTY-BOATER MYSELF, CAP'N, BUT I HAIN'T NEVER RUN ACROSS NOTHIN' LIKE THIS B'FORE!

WAL, LIVE AN' LARN, SON! HMM! LOOKS LIKE LOTS O' FOLKS GOIN' SOMEWHERE'S IN A HECK OF A HURRY!



AVAST THAR! WHERE'S EVERYBODY A-GOIN'?

TH' DAM'S A-BUSTIN' MISTER! YOU'D BETTER TURN THAT THING AROUN' AN' GIT OUTTA TH' VALLEY!



GOSH, CAP'N, YOU CAINT TURN AROUND ON THIS NARROW ROAD!

DON'T AIM TO, SON! THEY HAIN'T NOTHIN' BUT WATER BACK OF A DAM AN' THAT'S ONE THING ME AN' TH' ARBUTUS HAIN'T SKEERED OF!



LOOK AT 'EM RUSHIN' BY! RECKON NOW I KNOW HOW CAP'N NOAH FELT WHILST HE WAS A-SETTIN' IN TH' ARK A-WATCHIN' IT RAIN!



HEY! LOOK, CAP'N! TH' ROAD GOES RIGHT UNDER TH' WATER UP AHEAD!

WE'LL JES' FOLLER THAT LINE OF TELLYPHONE POLES TILL WE MEET 'ER COMIN' OUT ON TH' OTHER SIDE O' TH' VALLEY!



IT'S TH' FUST TIME I EVER NAVIGATED BY A ROW OF TELLYPHONE POLES! BUT THEY MAKE PURTY GOOD CHANNEL MARKERS AT THAT!



BUT LOOK, CAP'N! THEY GO RIGHT UP TH' SIDE O' TH' MOUNTAIN AN' TH' ROAD HAIN'T NOWHERE IN SIGHT!

WAL I'LL BE DOGGONED! WE BEEN HON-SWOGGLED BY A BUNCH O' DOUBLE CROSSIN' TELLYPHONE POLES!



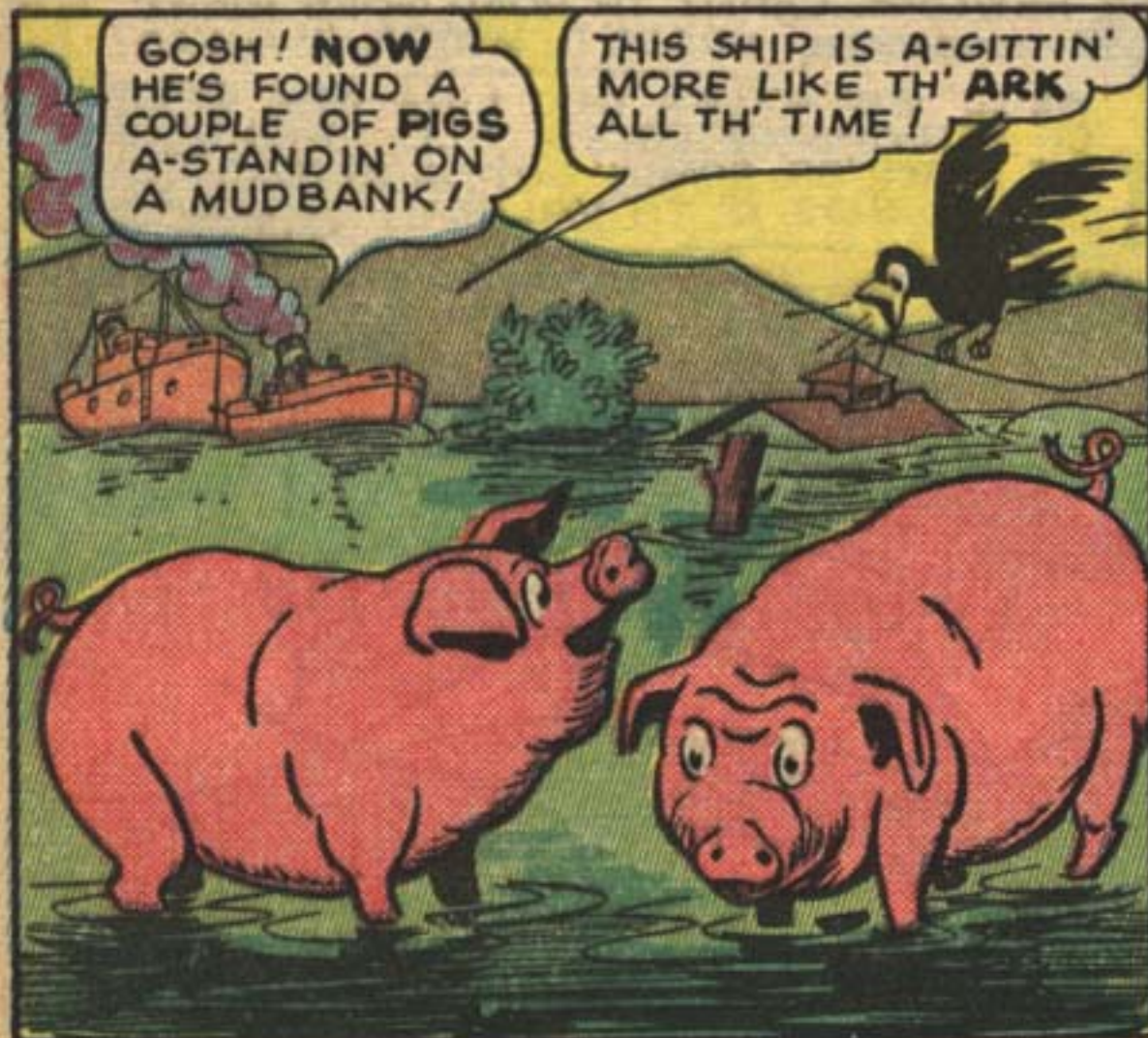
LOOK OVER THAR CAP'N! OL' GABBY CROW'S DONE FOUND A COUPLE O' TREED 'COONS!

I RECKON TH' PORE SKEERED LI'L VARMINTS BEEN MAROONED BY TH' FLOOD! WE'LL PULL ALONG-SIDE AN' GIT 'EM ABOARD TH' "KITTY-K"



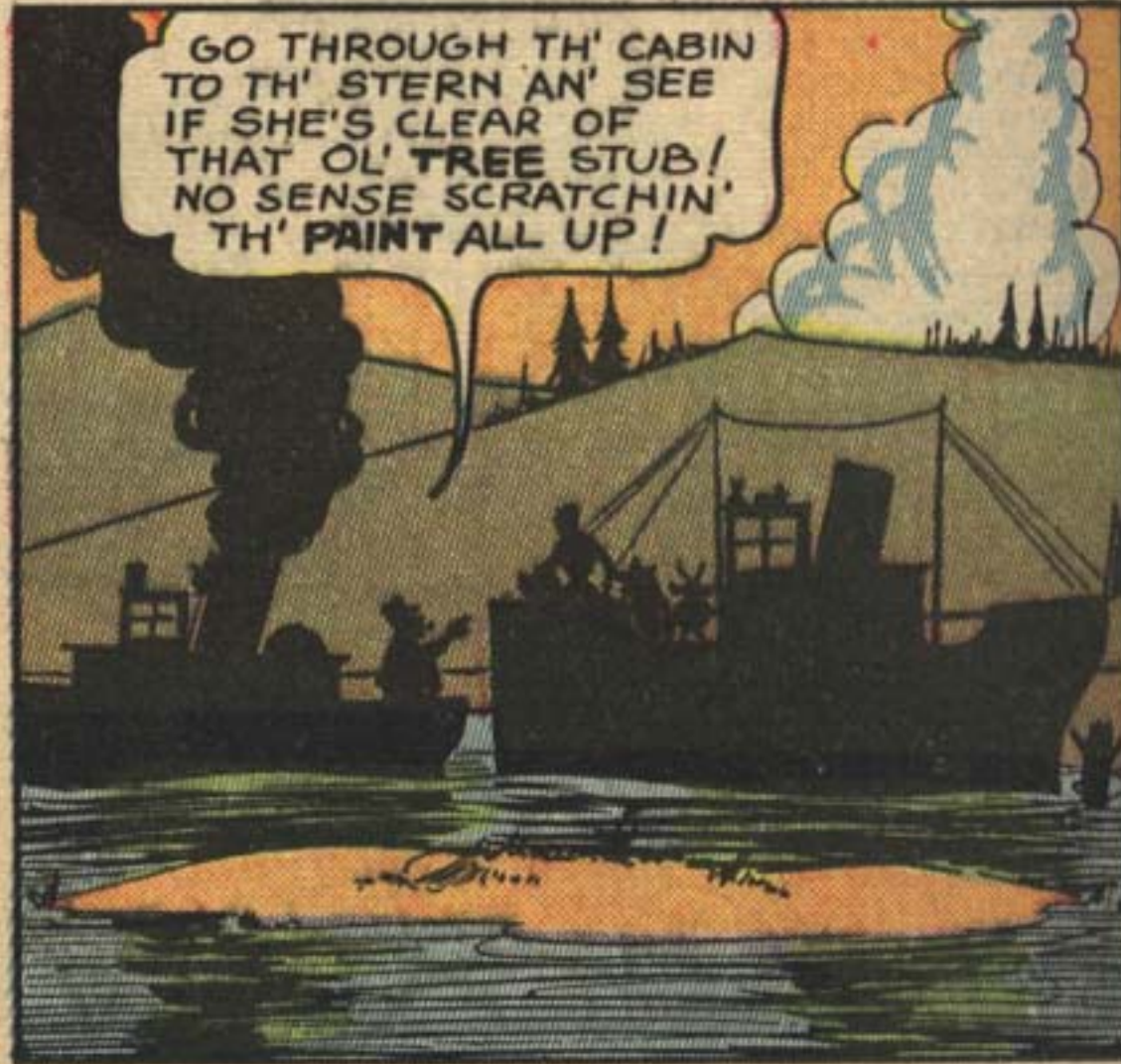
AN' LOOK YONDER! GABBY'S FOUND A GOAT ON TOP O' THAT BARN!

WELL WE BETTER GIT RIGHT OVER THAR! TH' LAW O' TH' SEA SAYS WE GOTTA RESCUE ALL CAST-AWAYS!

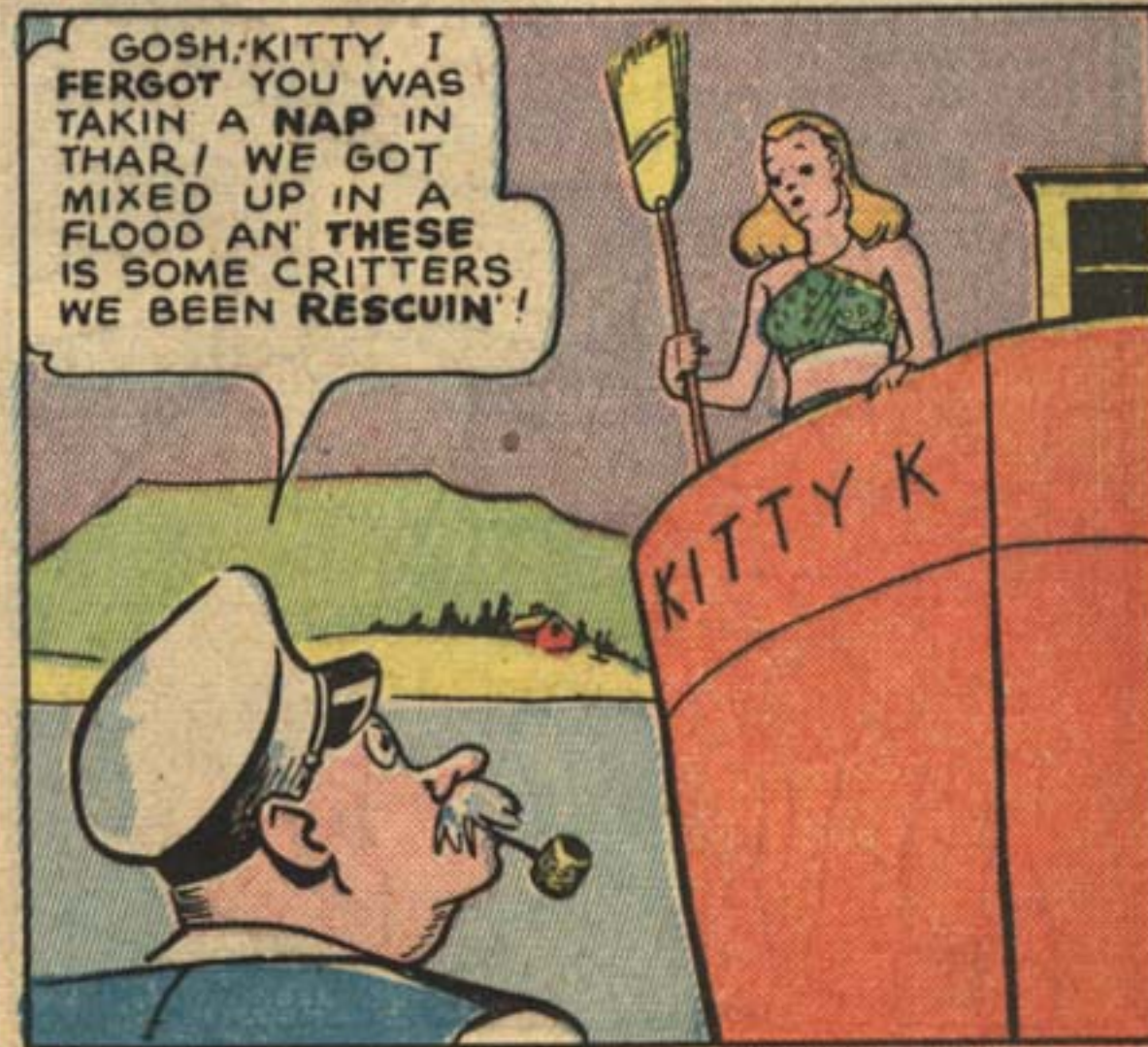
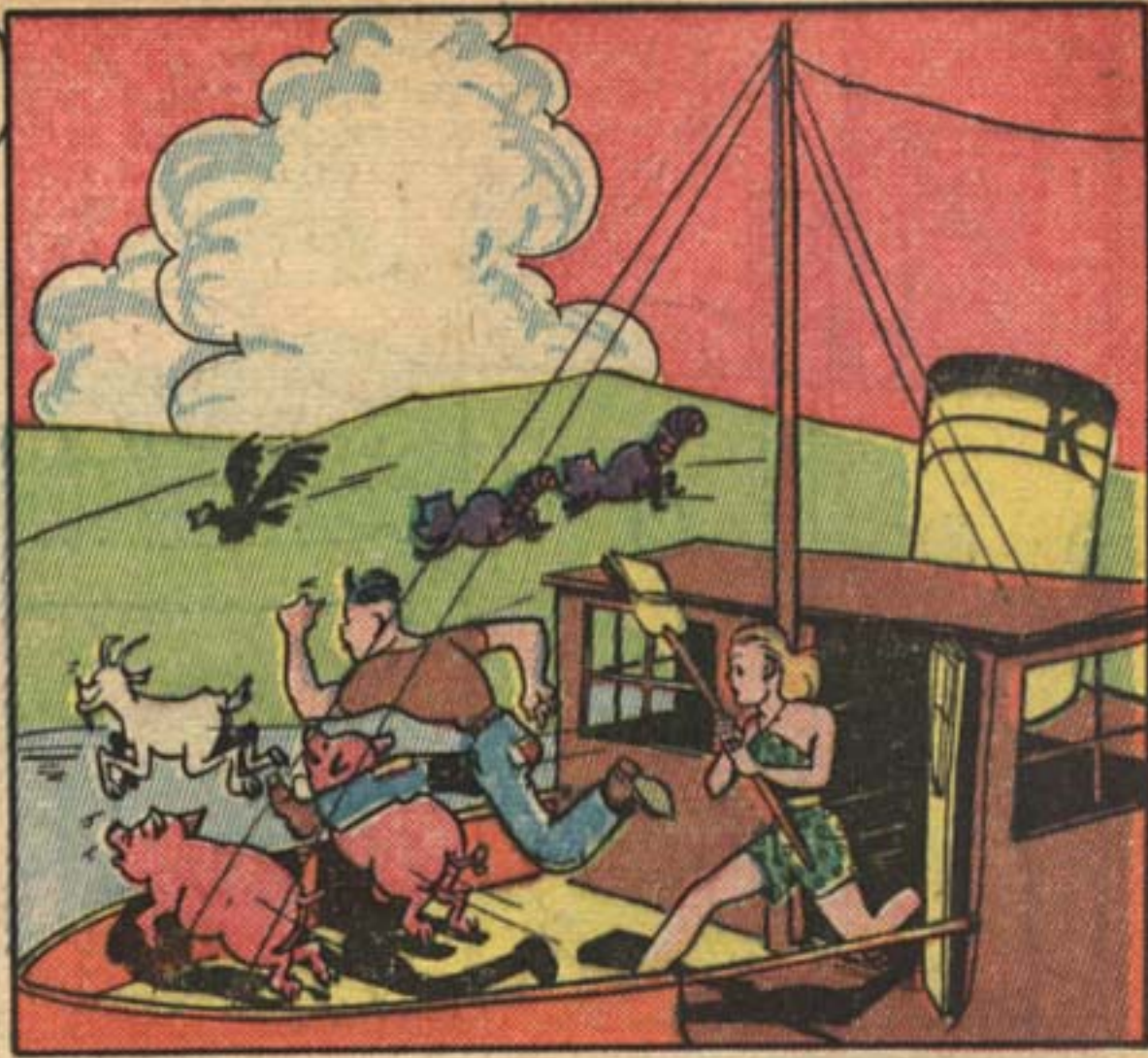


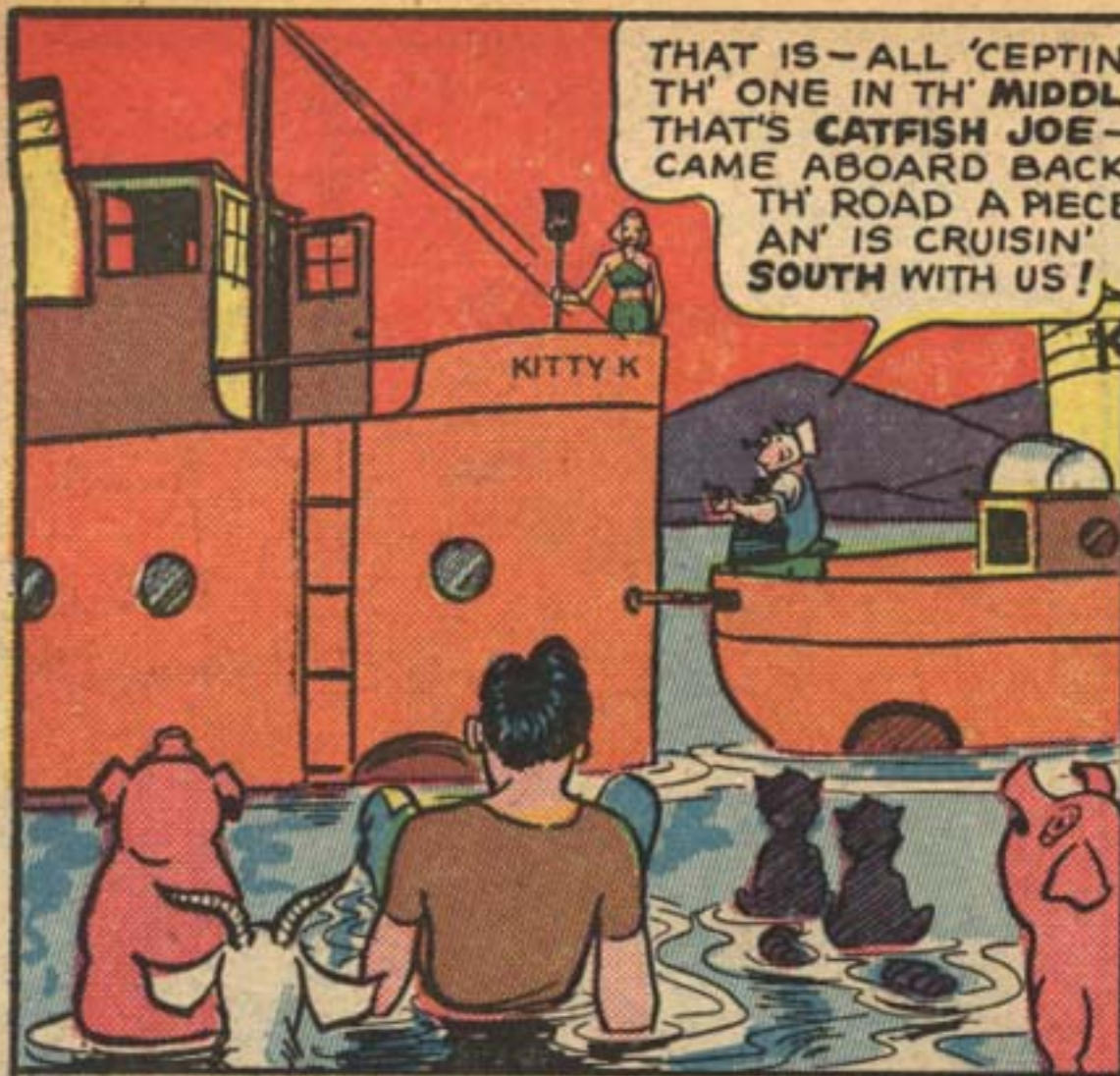
GOSH! NOW HE'S FOUND A COUPLE OF PIGS A-STANDIN' ON A MUDBANK!

THIS SHIP IS A-GITTIN' MORE LIKE TH' ARK ALL TH' TIME!



GO THROUGH TH' CABIN TO TH' STERN AN' SEE IF SHE'S CLEAR OF THAT OL' TREE STUB! NO SENSE SCRATCHIN' TH' PAINT ALL UP!





THAT IS— ALL 'CEPTIN' TH' ONE IN TH' MIDDLE! THAT'S CATFISH JOE— CAME ABOARD BACK TH' ROAD A PIECE AN' IS CRUISIN' SOUTH WITH US!



OH, I'M SO SORRY! YOU BETTER GET BACK ON BOARD BEFORE YOU CATCH COLD!

THANK YO MA'AM! I'LL BOOST THESE FELLERS ON AN' THEN CLIMB IN WITH TH' CAP'N!

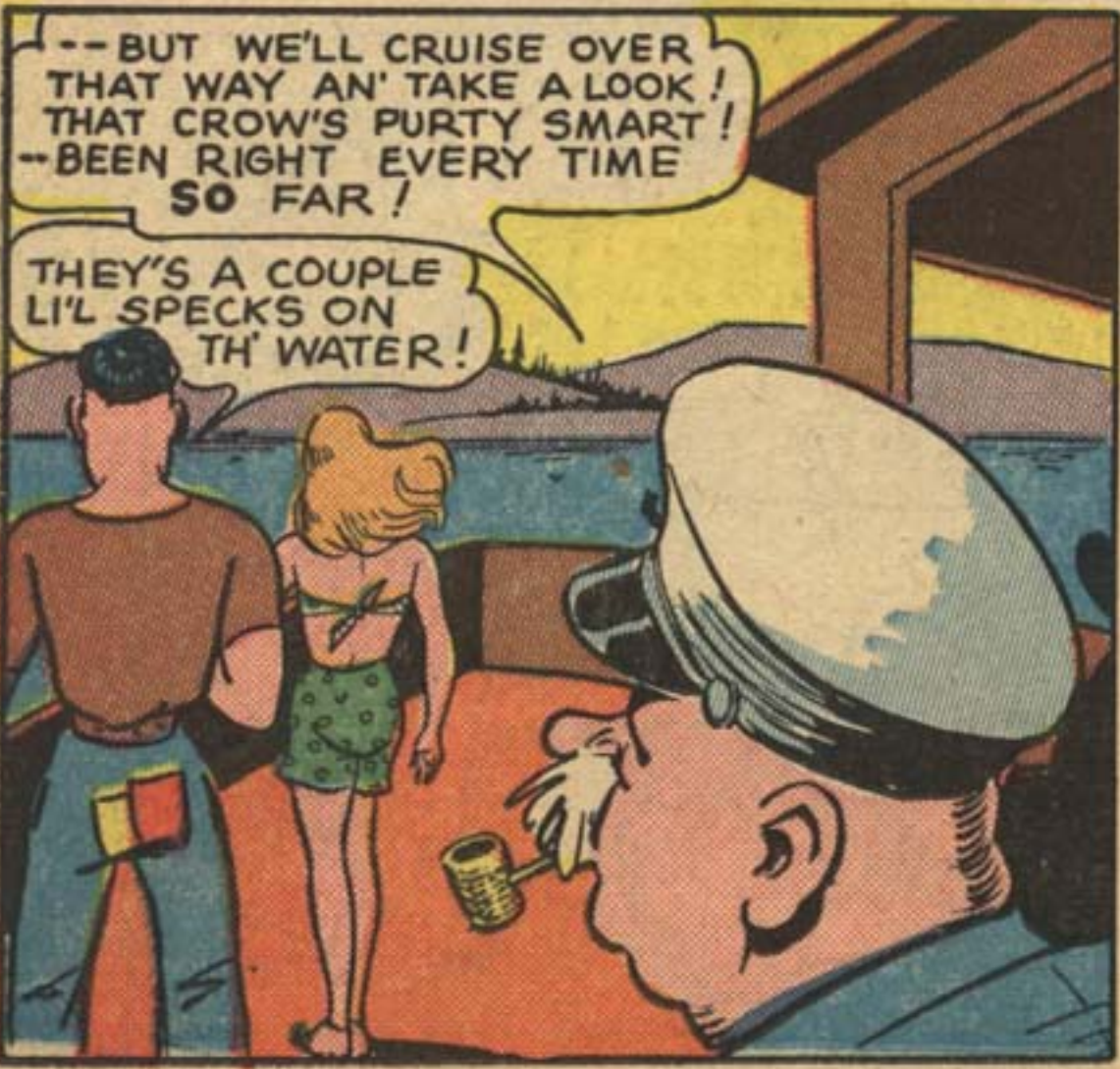


GIVE ME A HAND! I'M COMING UP THERE TOO! I'M NOT GOING TO RIDE BACK HERE WITH THIS MENAGERIE!



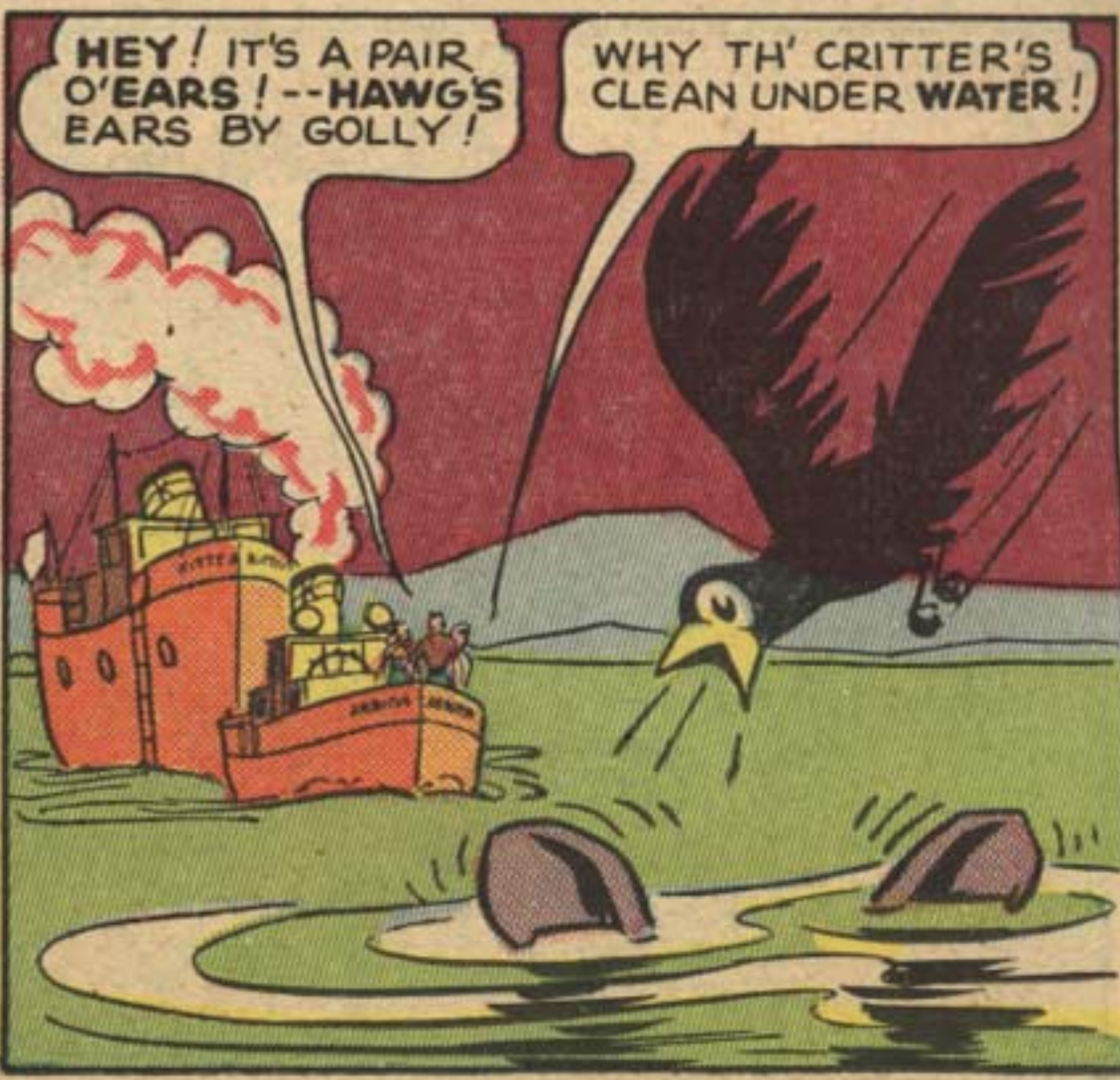
GOSH, CAP'N, LOOKS LIKE GABBY FOUND ANOTHER CRITTER OVER YONDER!

H-M-M! I DON'T SEE ANYTHING!



-- BUT WE'LL CRUISE OVER THAT WAY AN' TAKE A LOOK! THAT CROW'S PURTY SMART! --BEEN RIGHT EVERY TIME SO FAR!

THEY'S A COUPLE LI'L SPECKS ON TH' WATER!



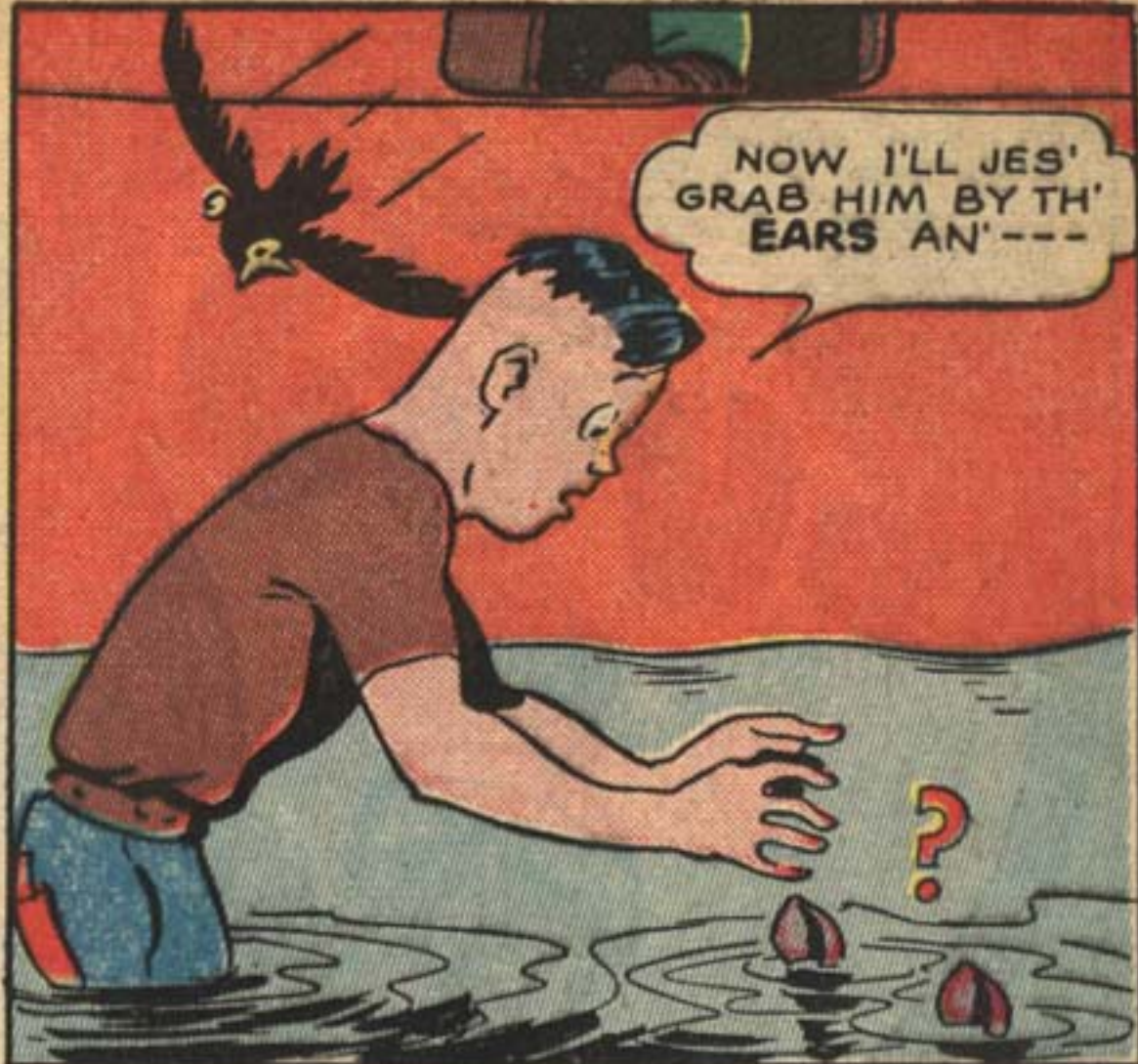
HEY! IT'S A PAIR O'EARS! --HAWG'S EARS BY GOLLY!

WHY TH' CRITTER'S CLEAN UNDER WATER!



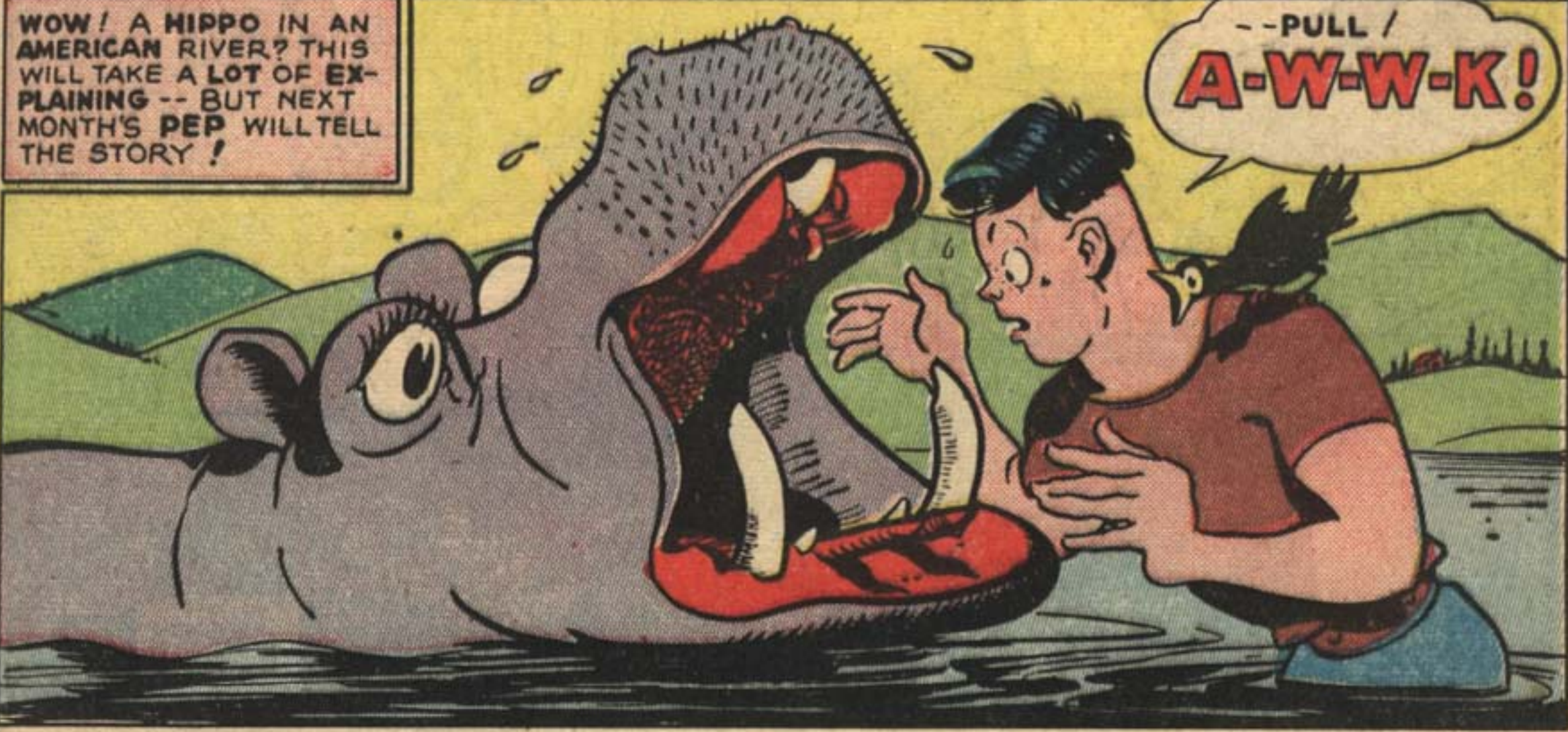
HE'S STILL ALIVE, JOE! I CAN SEE HIS EARS, WIGGLING!

I BETTER GIT HIM OUT QUICK! DON'T RECKON HAWGS KIN STAY UNDER VERY LONG!



NOW I'LL JES' GRAB HIM BY TH' EARS AN'---

WOW! A HIPPO IN AN AMERICAN RIVER? THIS WILL TAKE A LOT OF EXPLAINING -- BUT NEXT MONTH'S PEP WILL TELL THE STORY!



--PULL / A-W-W-K!

Animal-Antix

SEND IN YOUR ANIMAL-ANTIX TO CATFISH JOE, PEP COMICS 160 WEST BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N.Y.



CONDE FISHACK OF WESTACRES, MICH. WRITES THAT SHE HAS A PAIR OF MALLARD DUCKS THAT JUMP UP AND CATCH THEIR FOOD!



REGINALD BROWN OF DETROIT SAYS THEY HAVE A BEAR IN THE ZOO THERE THAT WAVES HIS PAW AT THE PEOPLE UNTIL THEY THROW HIM PEANUTS!

I'M JIM CROW, HELLO!

ROSE MARIE KELLEY OF WACO, TEXAS, WRITES THAT THEY HAVE A TAME CROW IN A PARK THERE THAT CAN TELL HIS NAME!

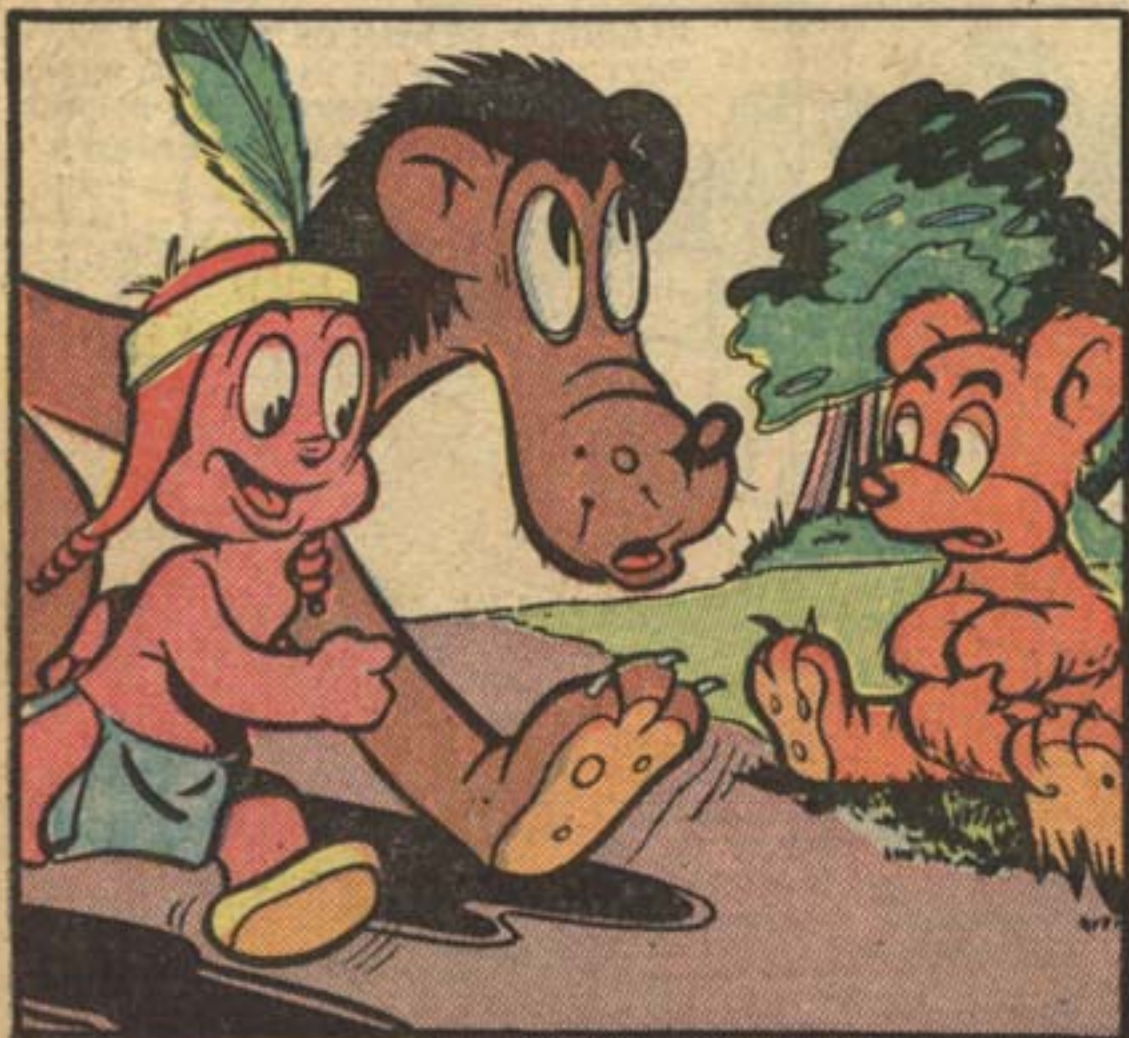


Lil' Chief
BUU

BOO

Buyaboo
AND FIDO
THE FRIENDLY
MOUNTAIN LION
ARE OFF ONCE
MORE IN
SEARCH OF
ADVENTURE
IN THE
FOREST
!!!

by
DAVE
HIGGINS



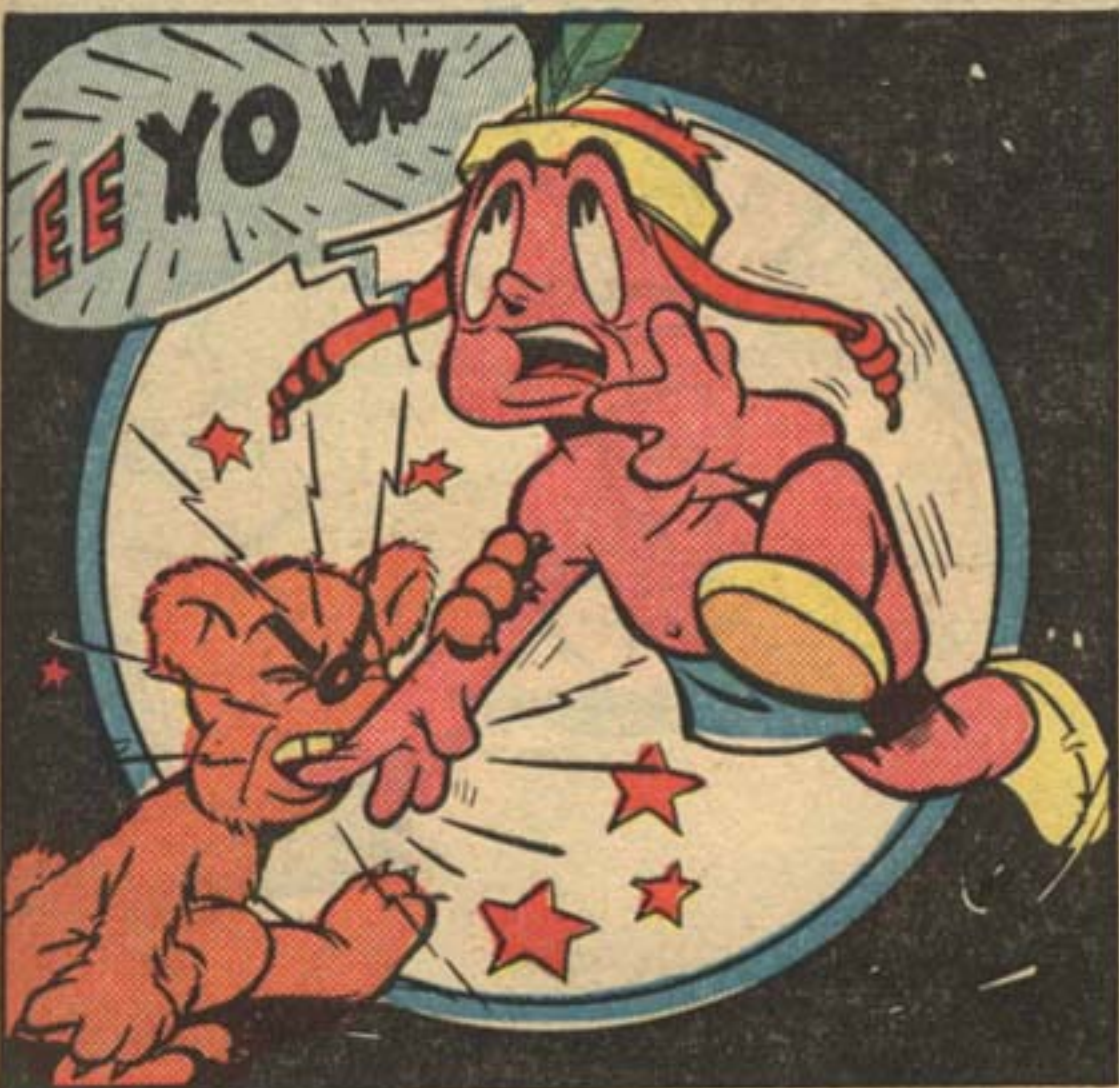
HEY!
DID YOU
SEE, WHAT
I SAW??



OH, BOY! I ALWAYS WANTED A BABY BEAR AS A PET! LOOK AT THIS FELLOW, HE SURE IS A CUTE LITTLE GUY!



COME HERE LIL' FELLOW.. YOU LOOK KIND OF LOST AND FRIGHTENED!



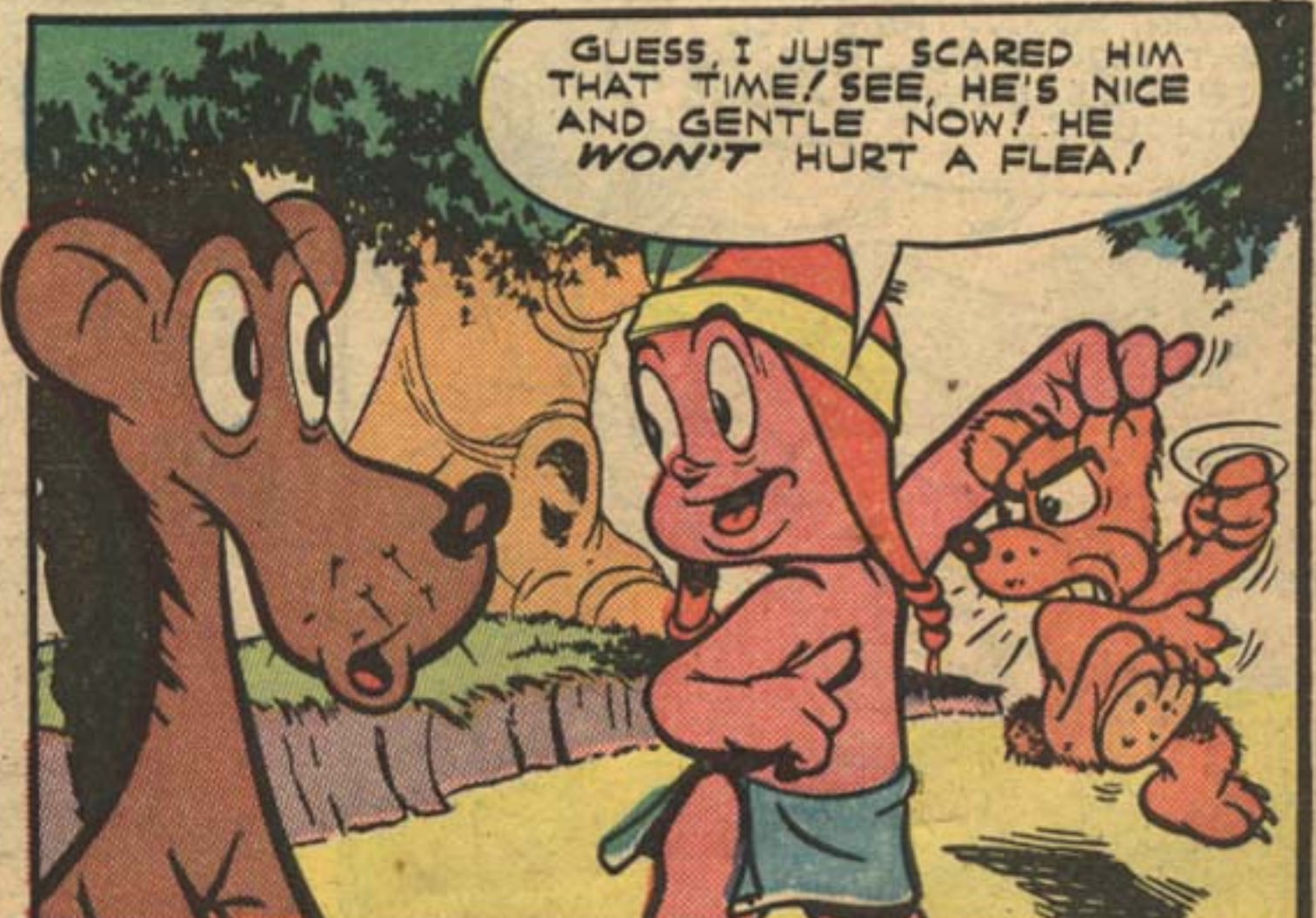
EE YO W



HE BIT MY FINGER!
OOOHH---
GRRRR!!

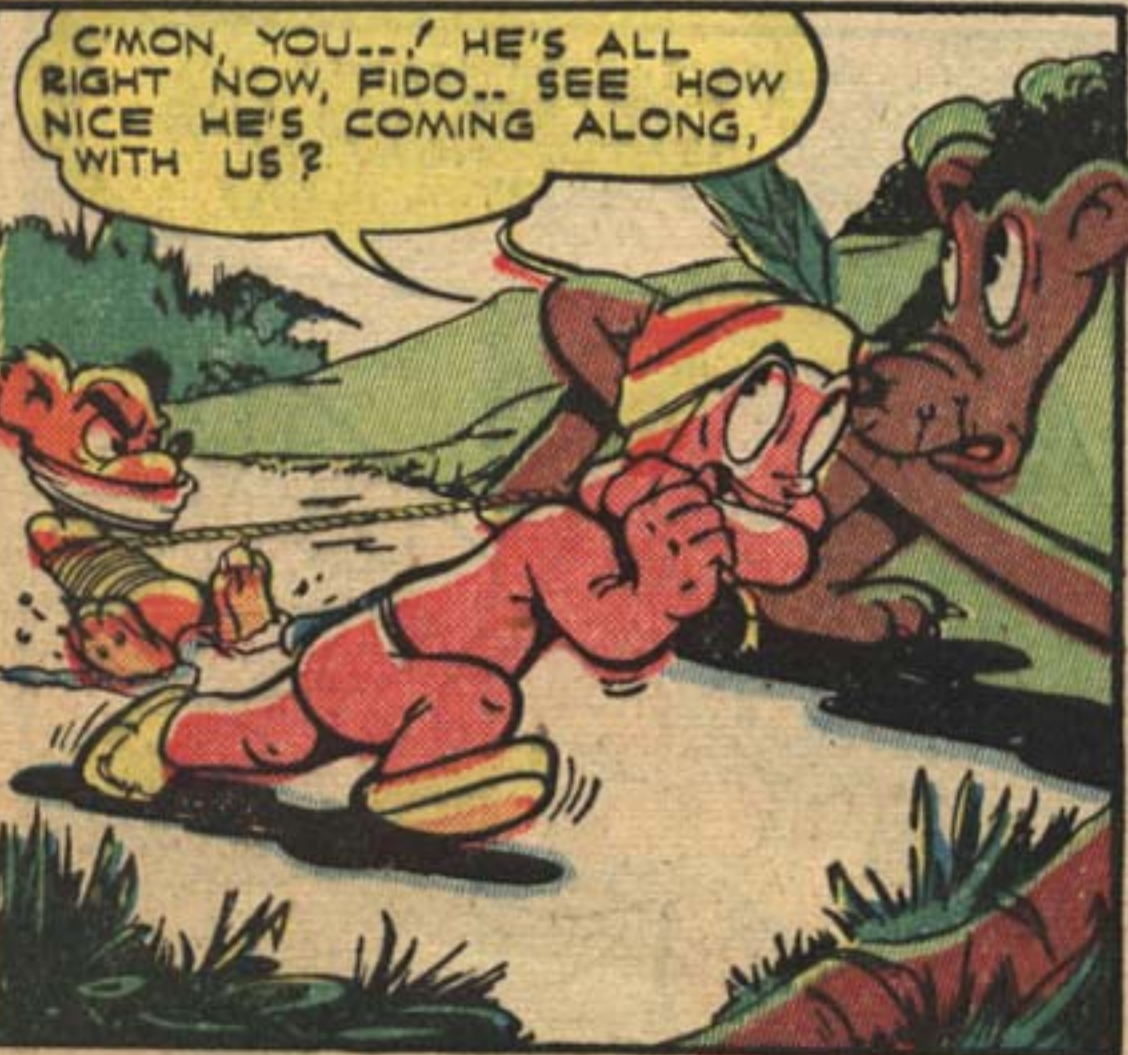
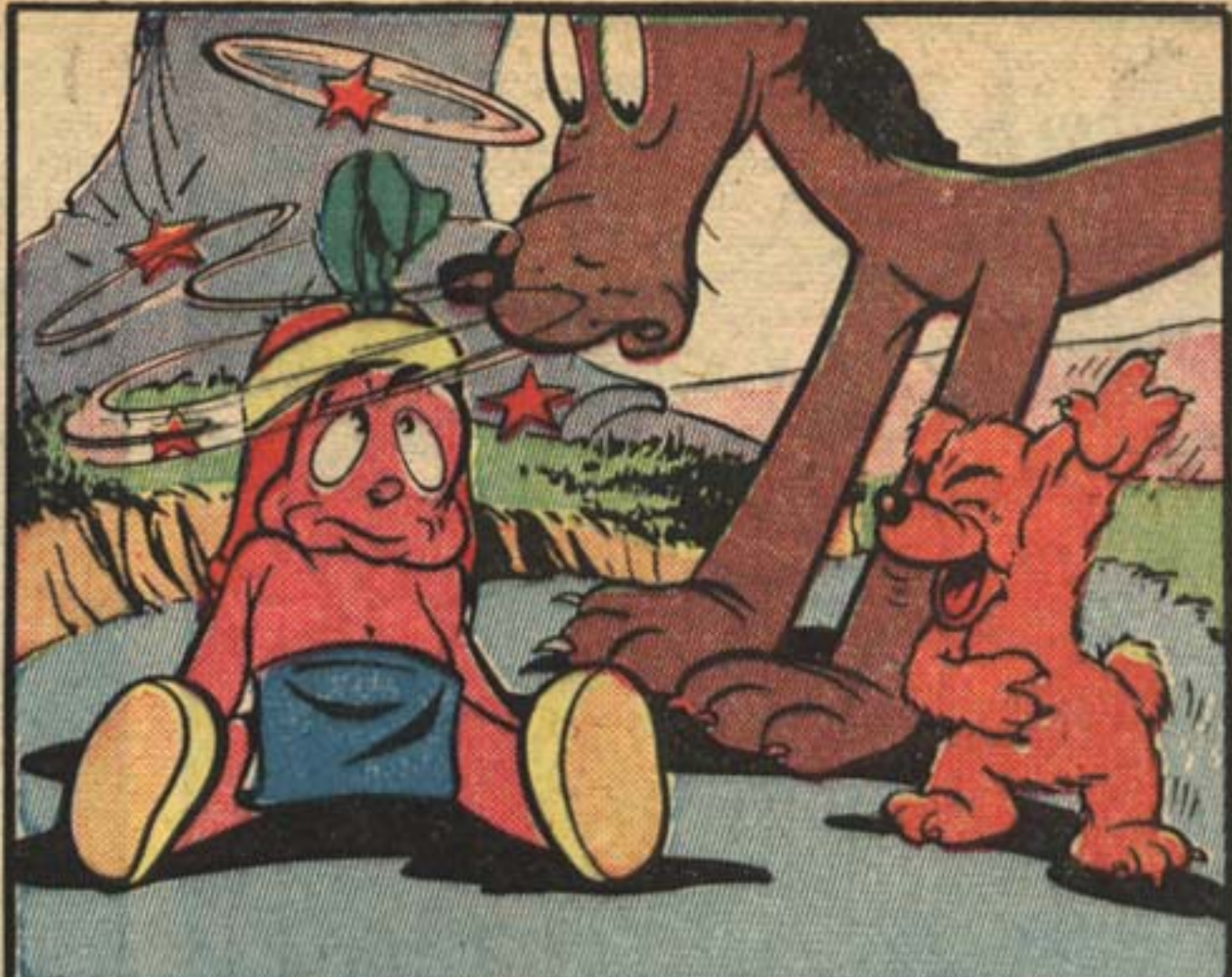


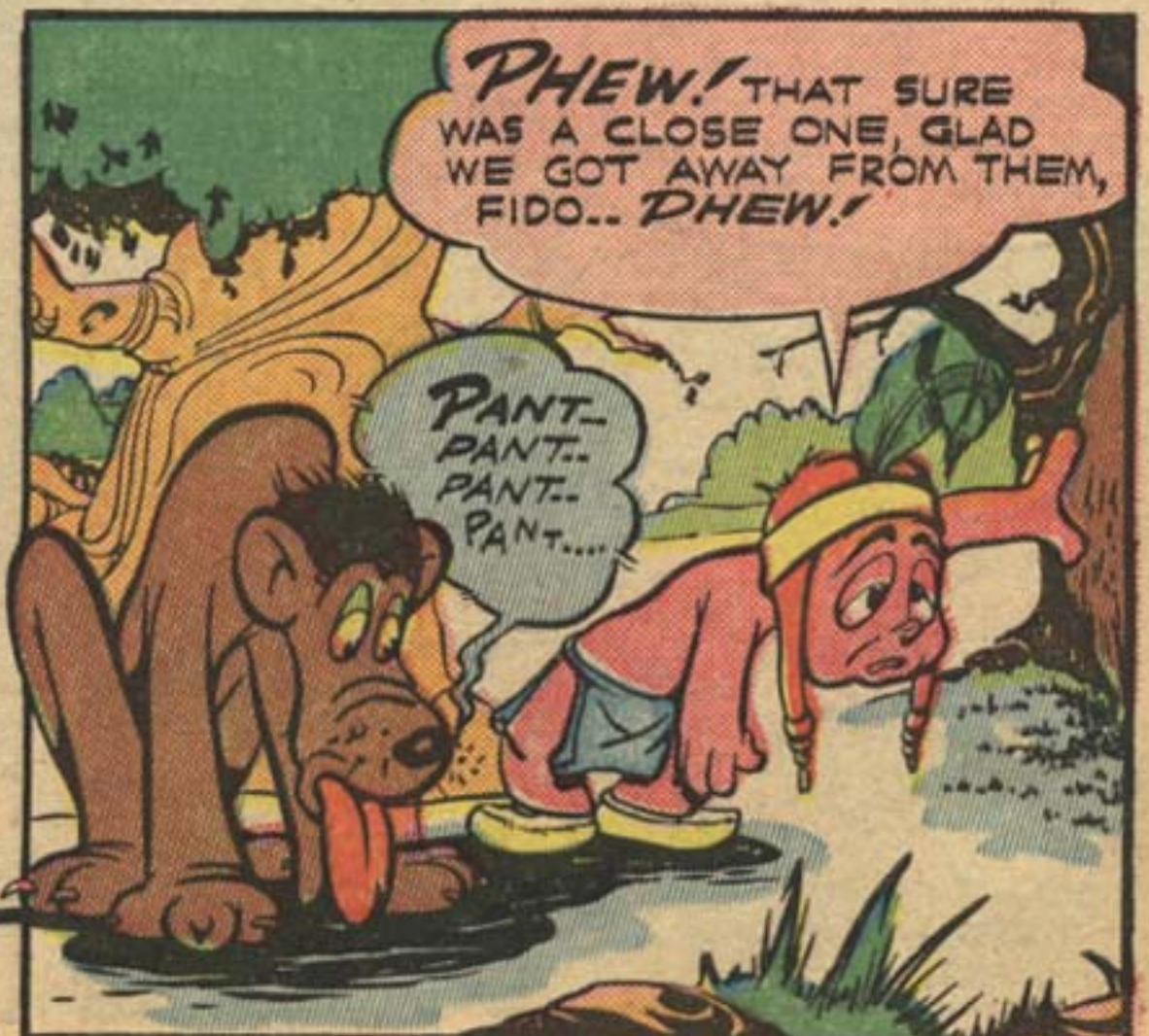
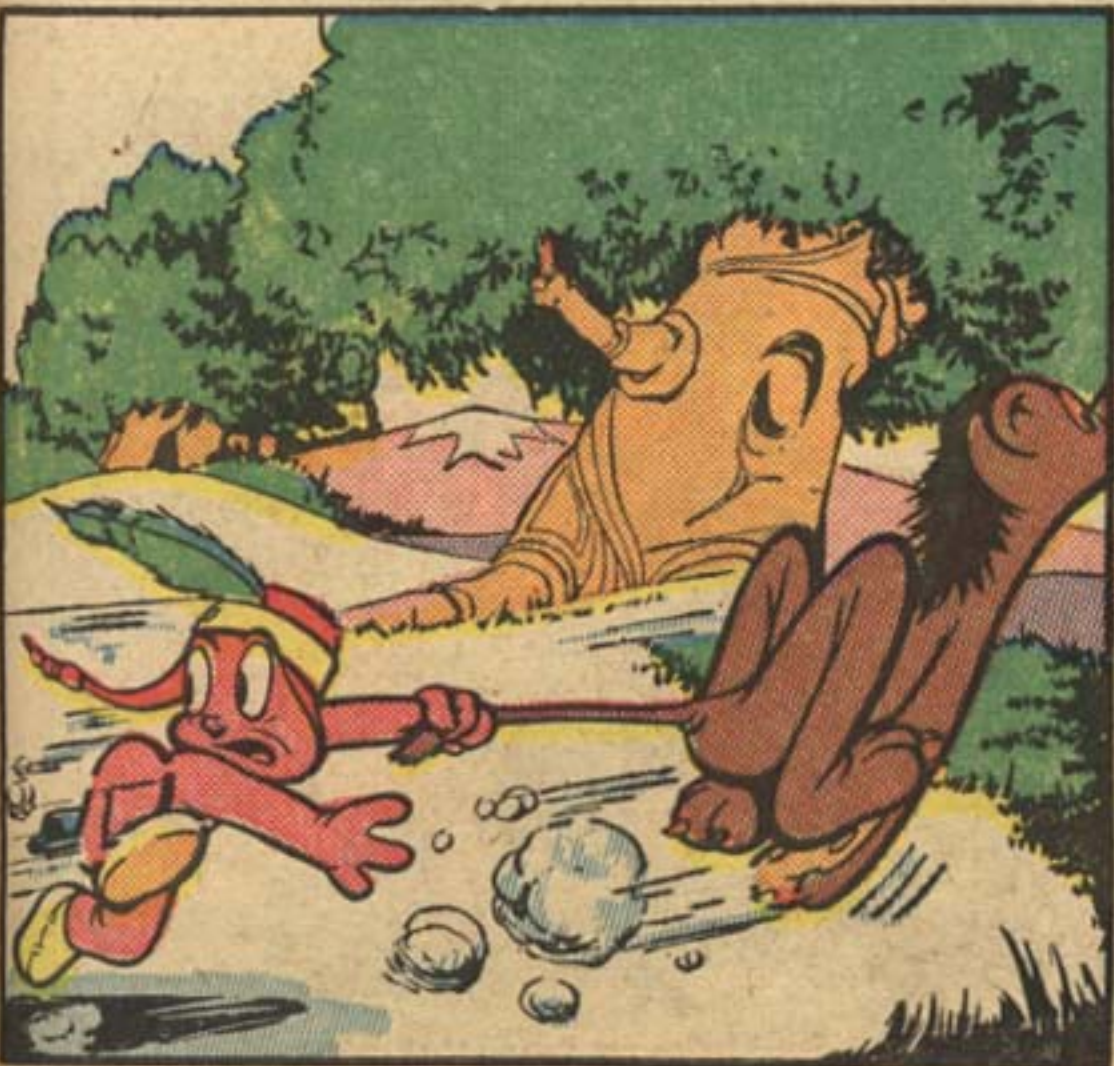
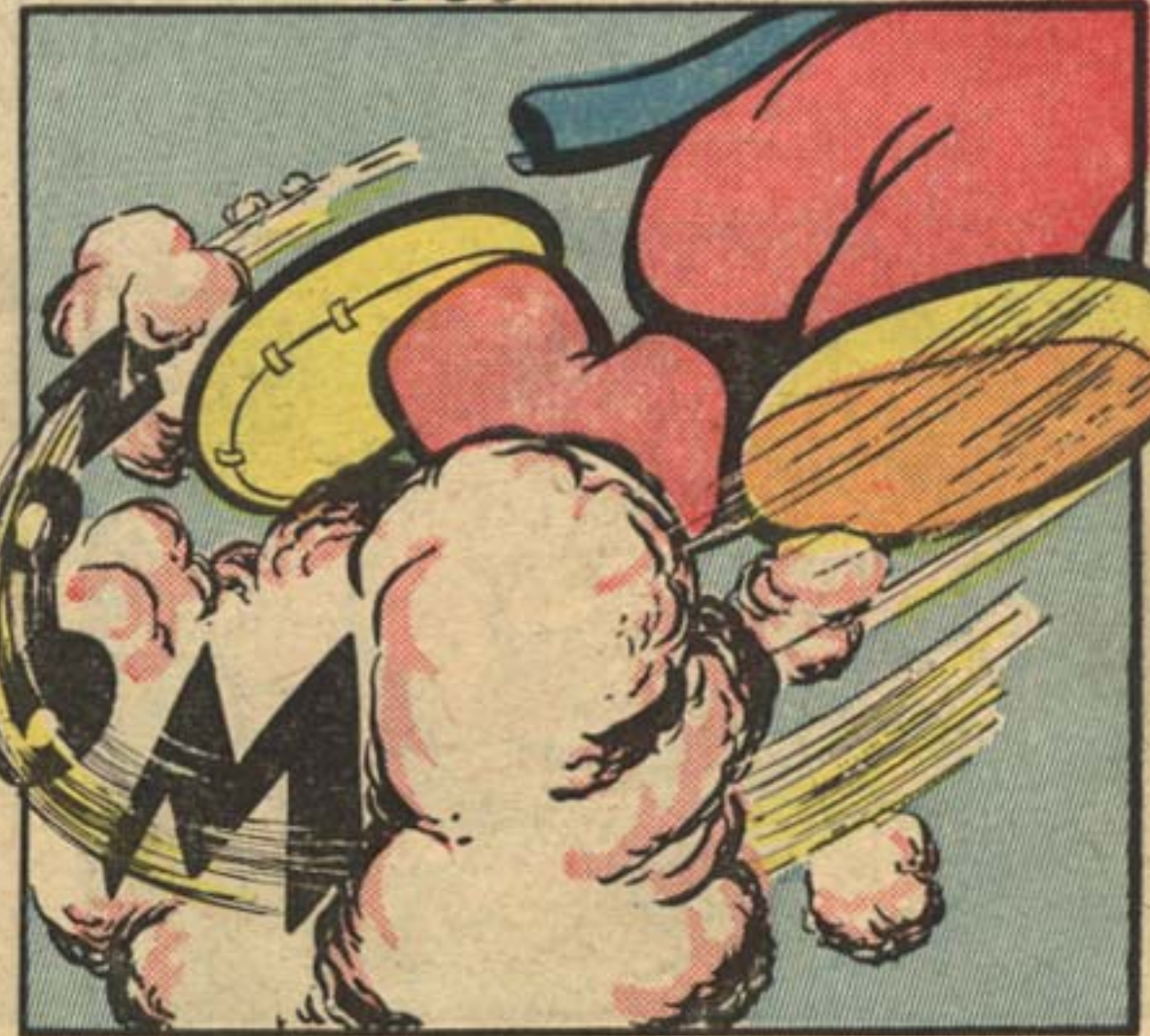
WHY, YOU LITTLE.. IF I THOUGHT YOU MEANT THAT.....

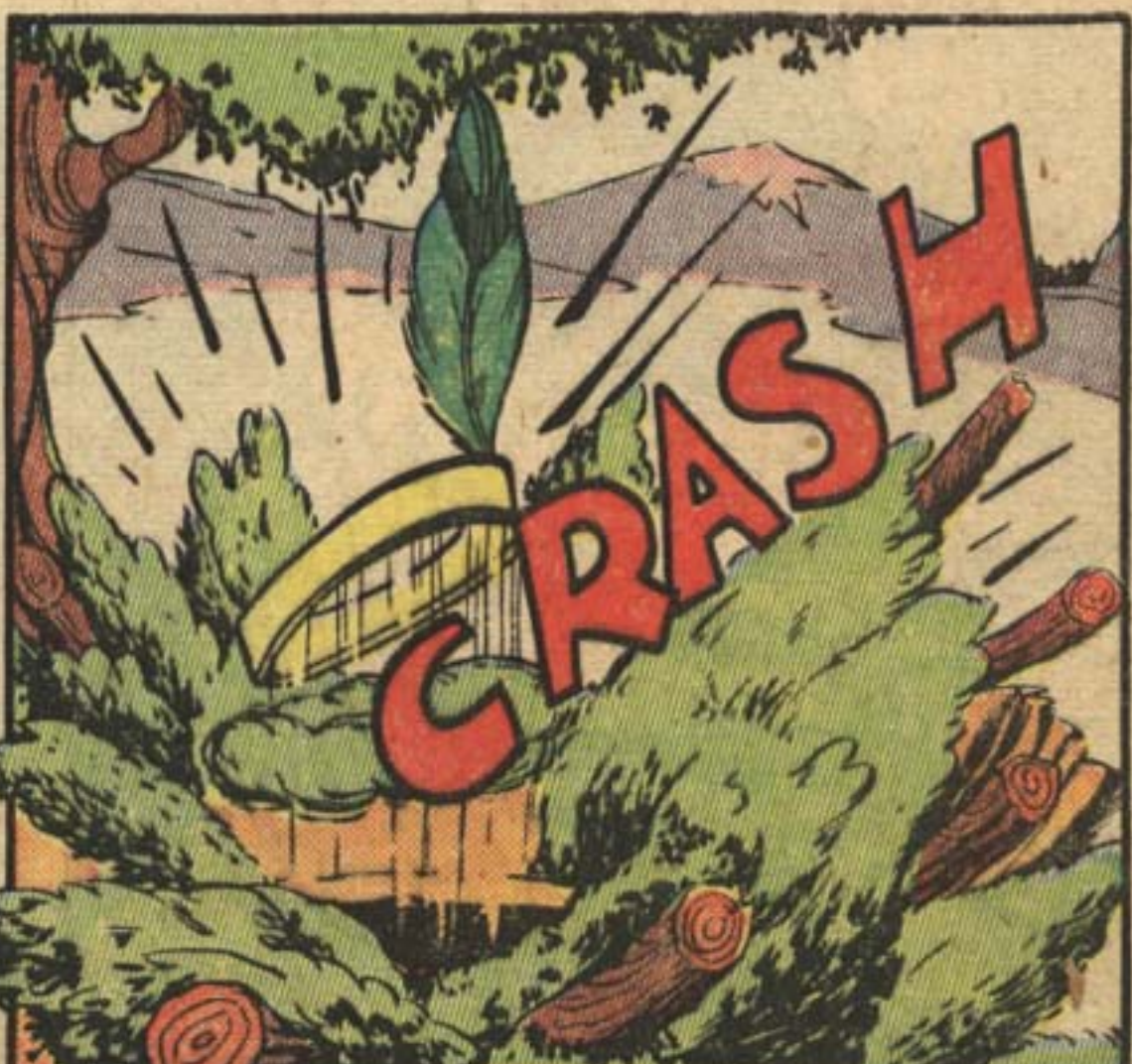
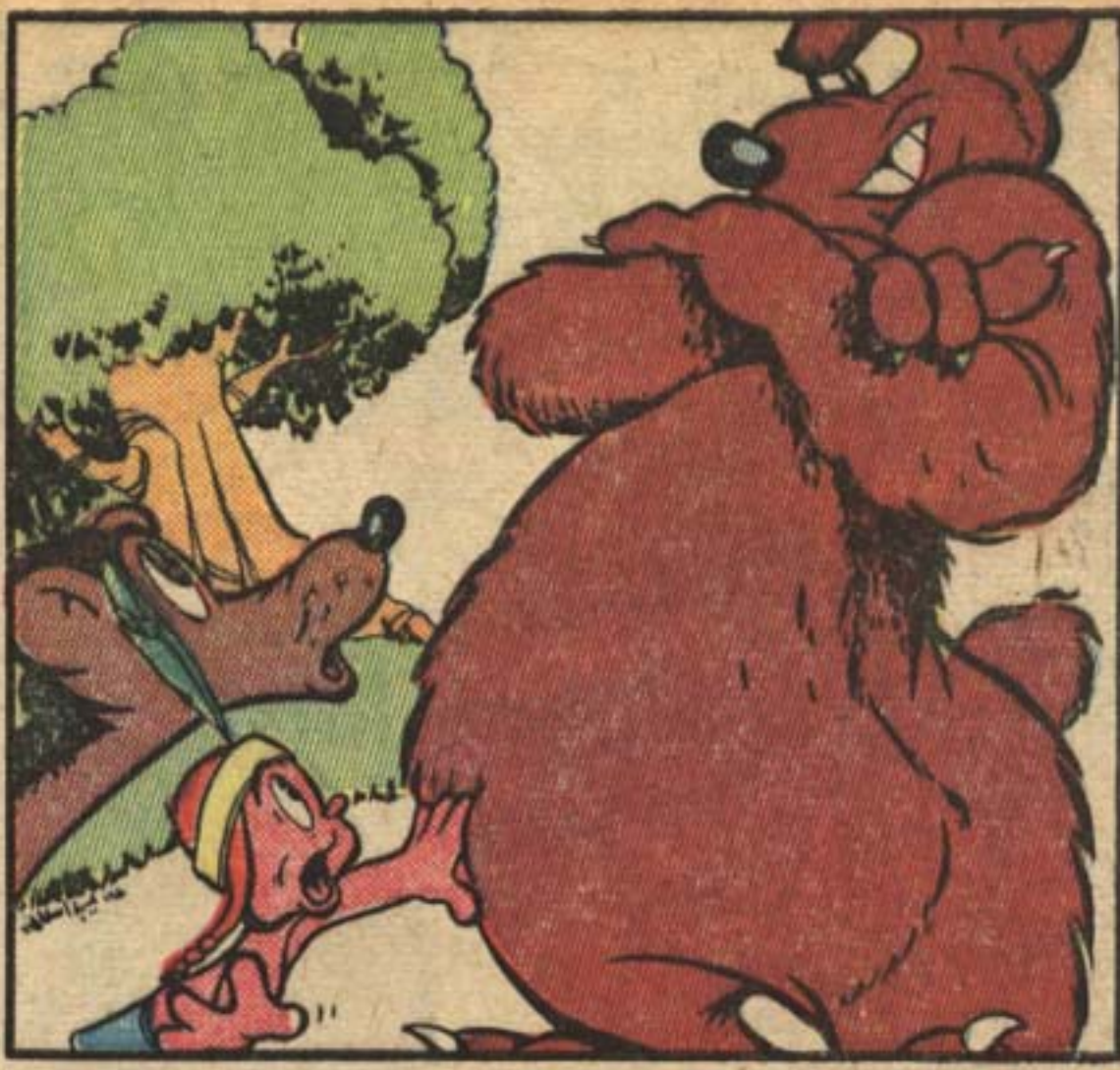
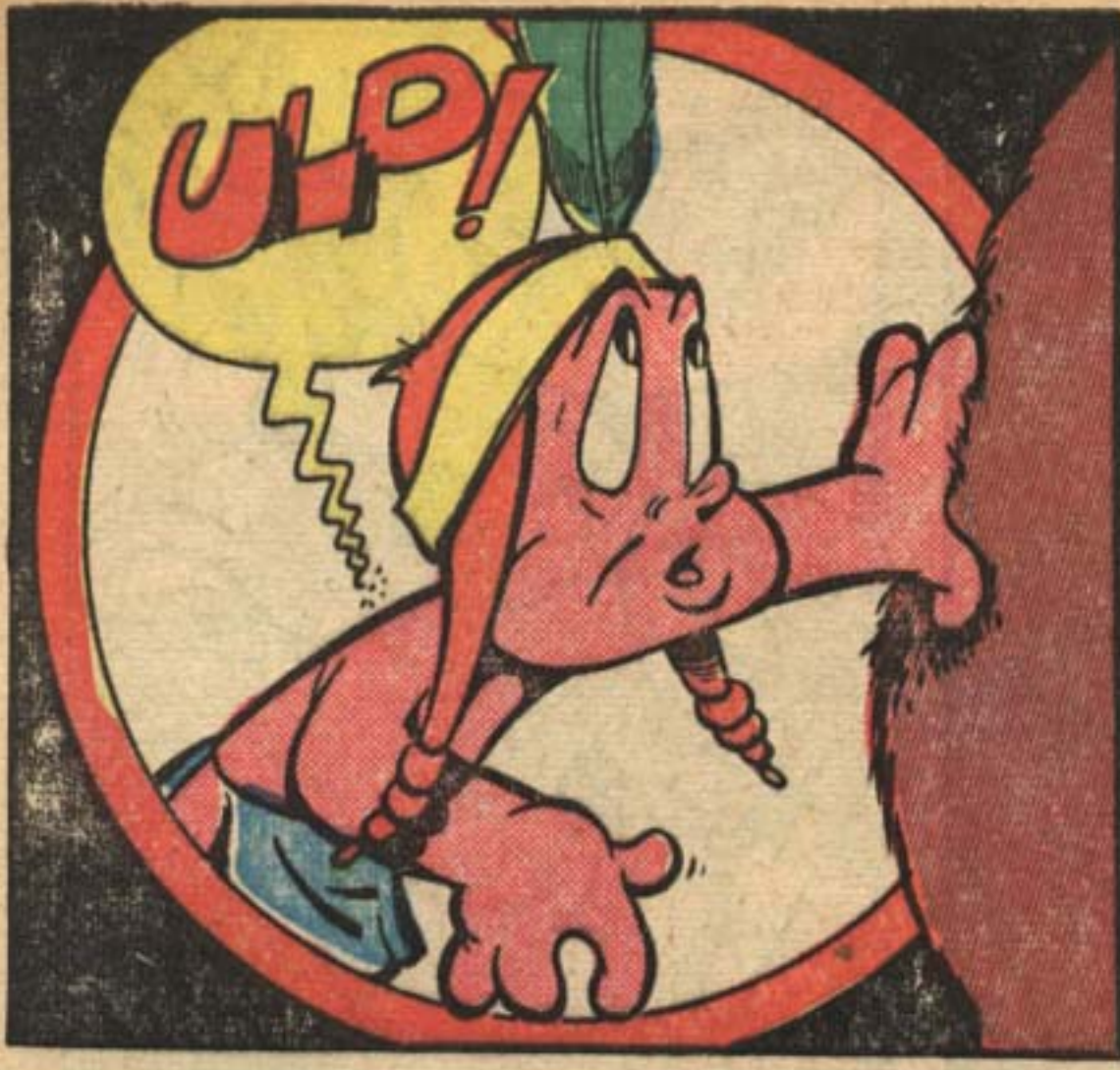


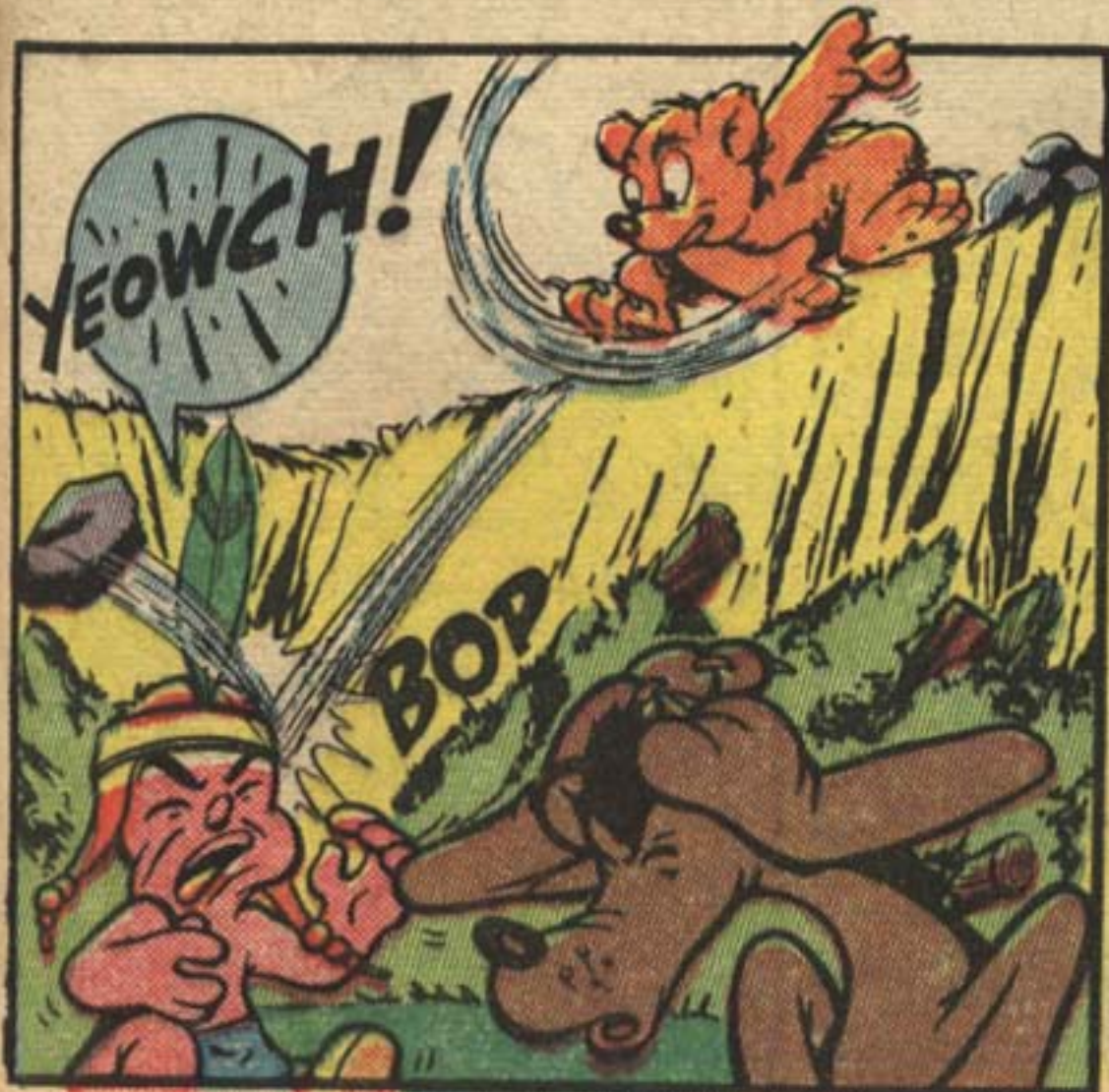
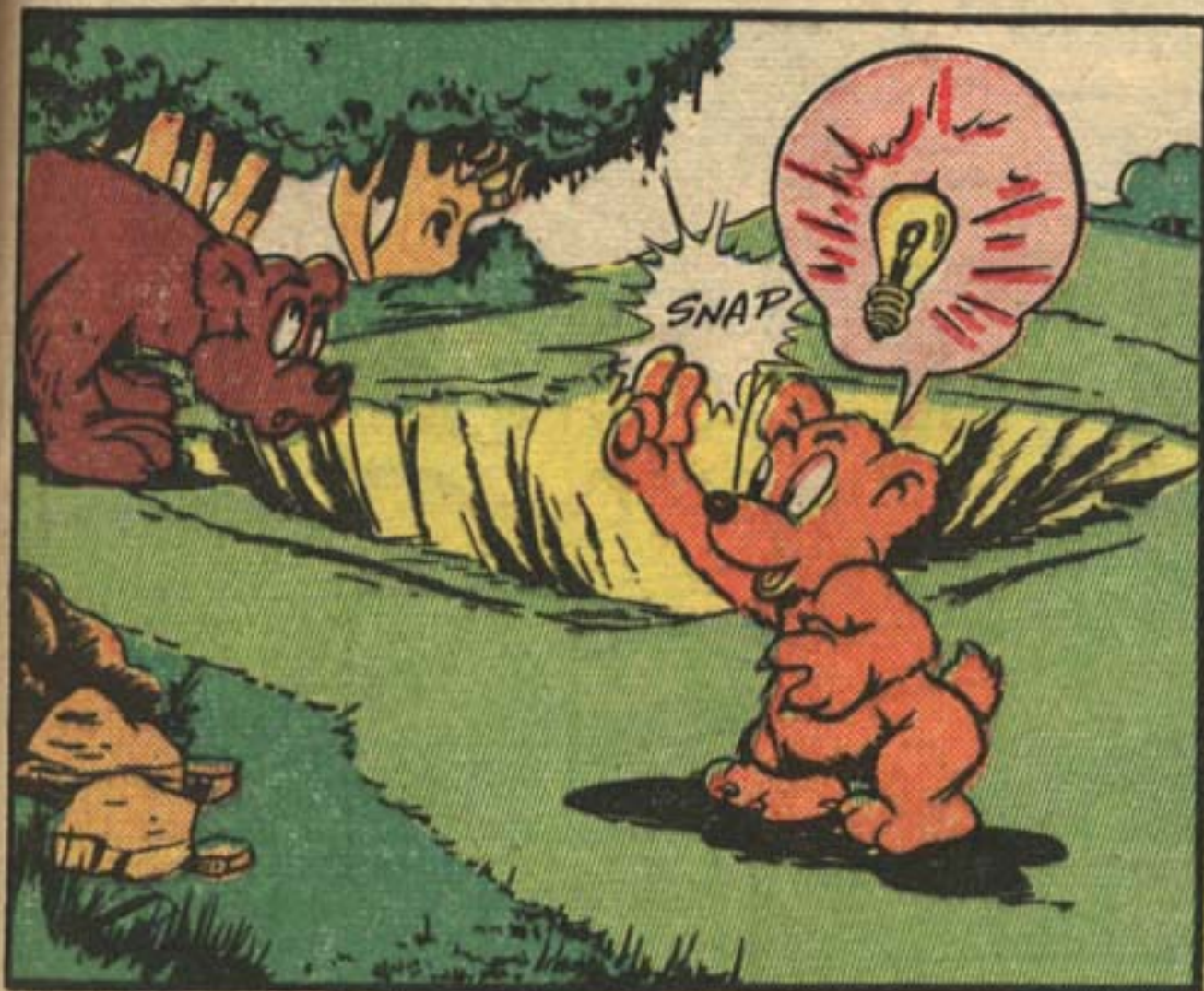
GUESS, I JUST SCARED HIM THAT TIME! SEE, HE'S NICE AND GENTLE NOW! HE WON'T HURT A FLEA!

RAM









MARCO LOCO

by
Carl
Hubbell

ADVENTURER

FUNNY, SNOOCH
I'D SWEAR, I'VE
PULLED THIS
PIRATE OUT
THREE TIMES
ALREADY!

CAN'T
UNDERSTAND,
CAP'N
MARCO!

UGH!

ONCE AGAIN WE SAIL
TO ADVENTURE, WITH
MARCO LOCO AND
HIS GALLANT CREW OF
THE GOLDEN HERRING!

LAND
HO!

LAND
HO!

MARCO LOCO AND SNOOCH
GO ASHORE TO GET WATER.

BRRR!
I KNOW NOT
WHY, BUT THIS
ISLAND GIVES
ME THE
CREEPS!

ME TOO!
LET US FILL
OUR PAILS
AND BE
OFF!!



NO! BUT COME! MAYBE THIS SIGN WILL DIRECT US!



GULP!

MY WORD!



REWARD!
10,000 SMACKOS

MEDUSA
(SIGNED)
King Deep.



HA! WHOEVER PUT THAT UP SURE MUST HAVE A SENSE OF HUMOR!

I'LL SAY! HAW! HAW! IMAGINE ANYBODY AS UGLY AS THAT!



HO! HO! I CAN'T GET OVER THAT FACE!.... MAYBE THIS GIRL CAN TELL US WHERE TO GET SOME WATER!

I'LL ASK HER!



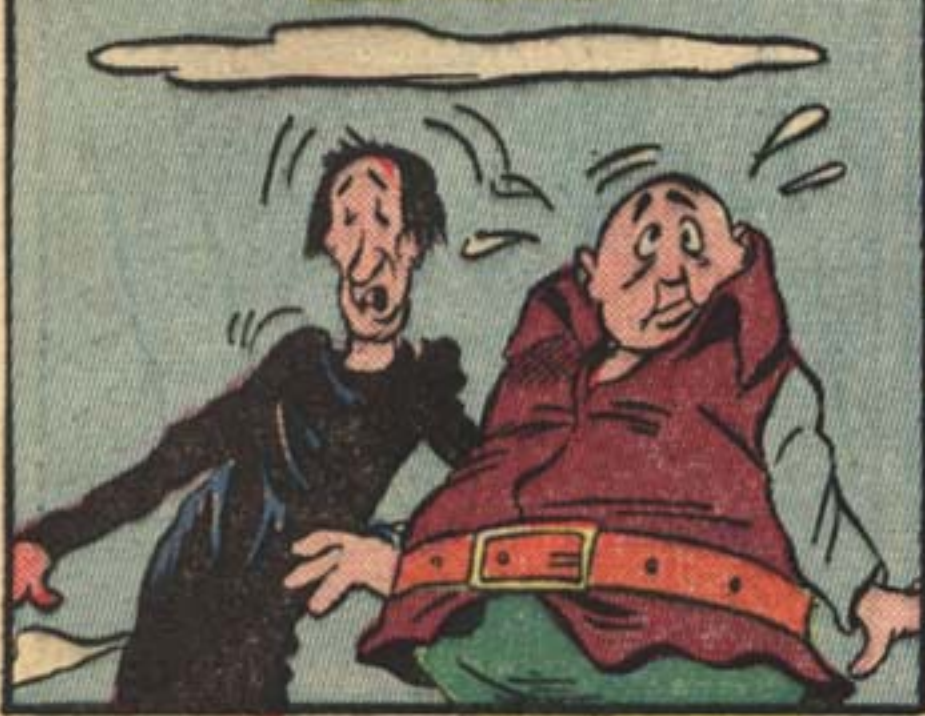
PARDON ME MISS, DO YOU KNOW YOUR WAY AROUND HERE?



YES, WHY?

AWRRKK!!
THE MEDUSA!

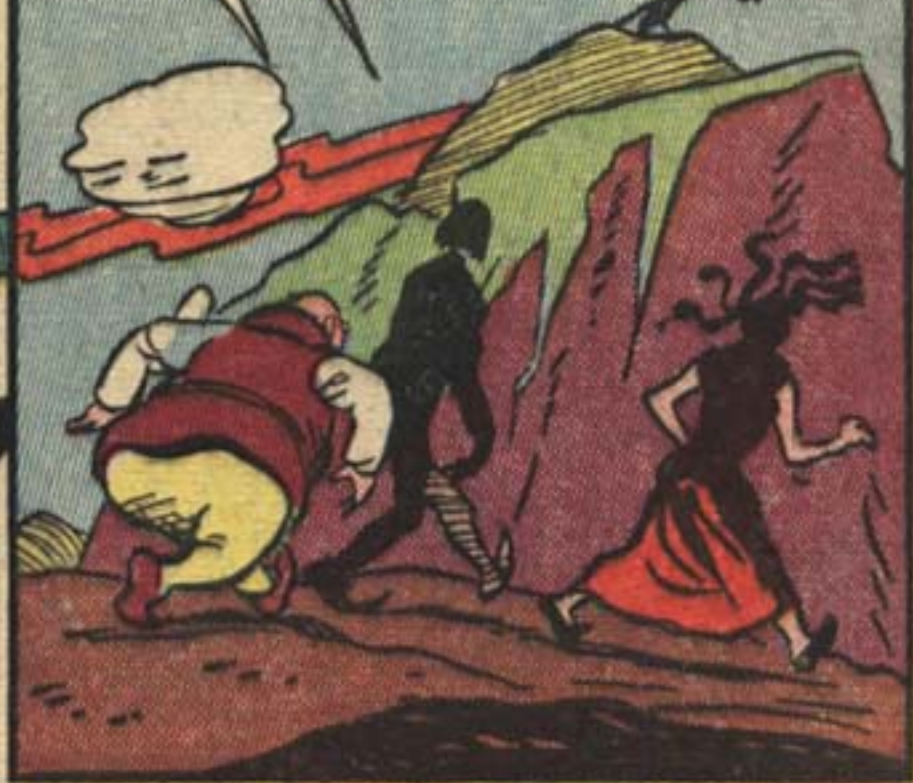
WHEN MARCO LOCO AND SNOOCH GAZE UPON THE HORRID HEAD OF THE MEDUSA, THEY ARE POWERLESS TO MOVE OR SPEAK... IT IS AS THOUGH THEY HAD BEEN STRUCK DUMB... ??



FOLLOW ME!!



YES, MAM!



LEADING THEM TO HER CAVE, THE MEDUSA LOCKS UP MARCO AND SNOOCH.

THE FOLLOWING MORNING, THE MEDUSA RETURNS..



GW...??D! HOW ARE WE GOING TO GET OUT OF THIS MESS?

IMPOSSIBLE! THOSE SNAKES ARE TOO HYPNOTIC!



I HAVE COME TO TELL YOU, WHAT I'VE DECIDED TO DO WITH YOU!



I LIKE YOUR LOOKS! I THINK YOU ARE CUTE! YOU AND I WILL GET MARRIED!



DELIGHTED! BUT WHAT ABOUT SNOOCH? YOU CAN'T MARRY US BOTH!

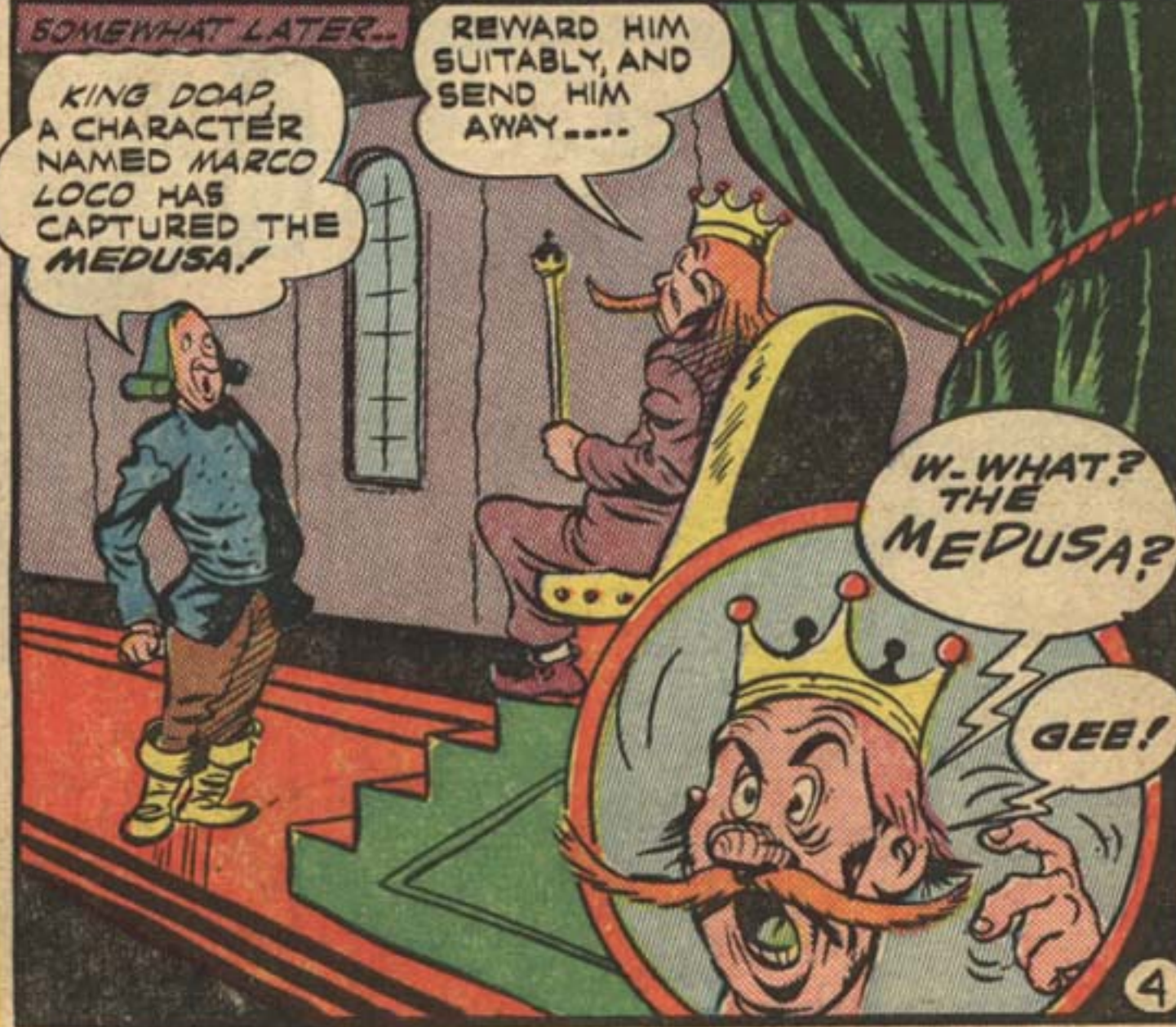
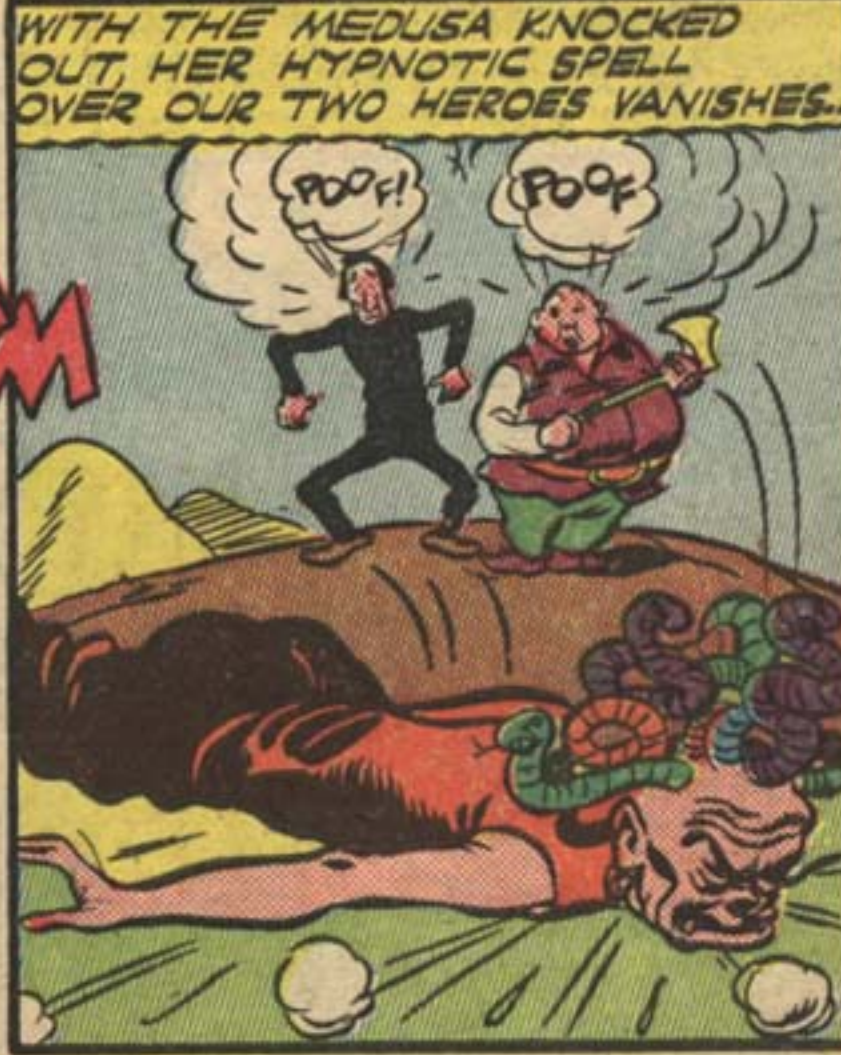
VERY SIMPLE!

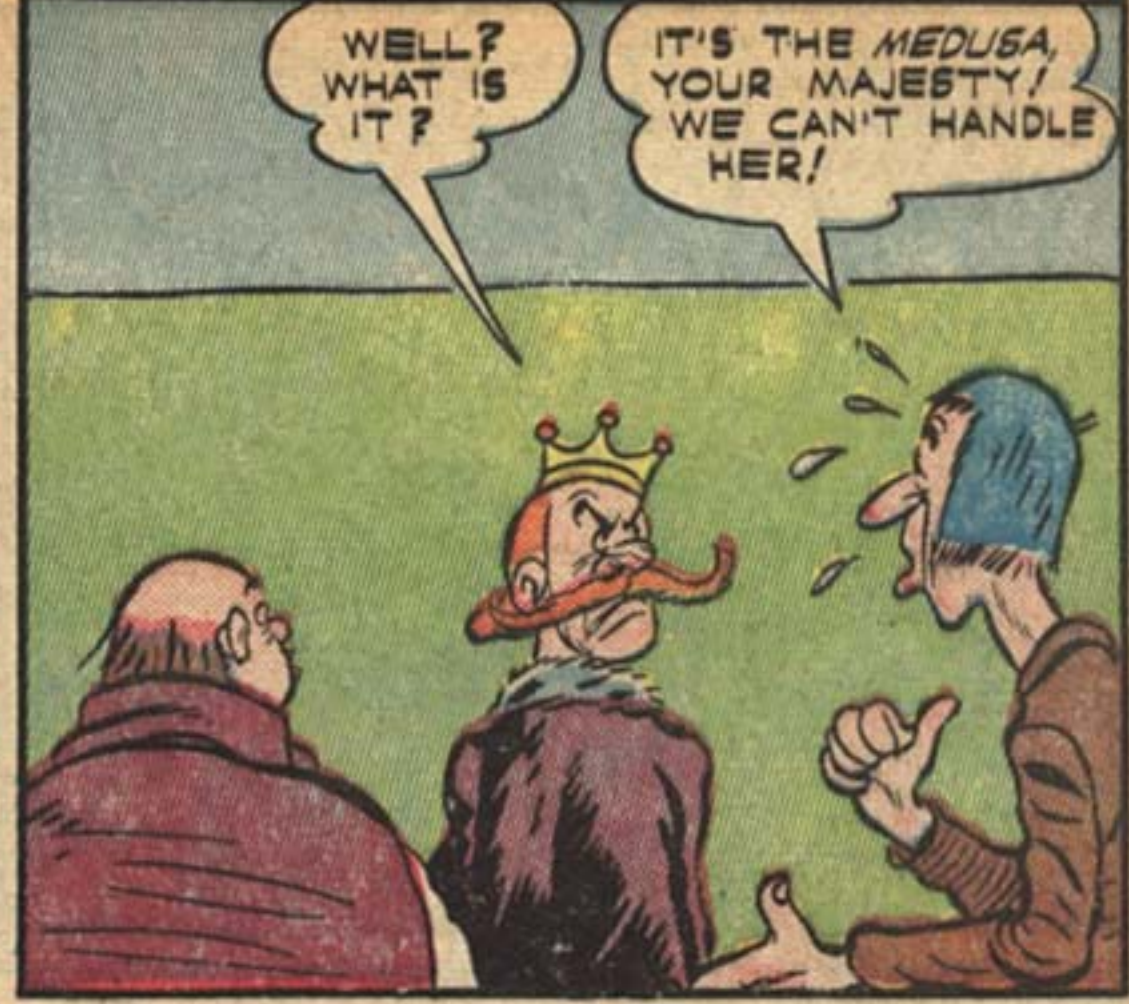
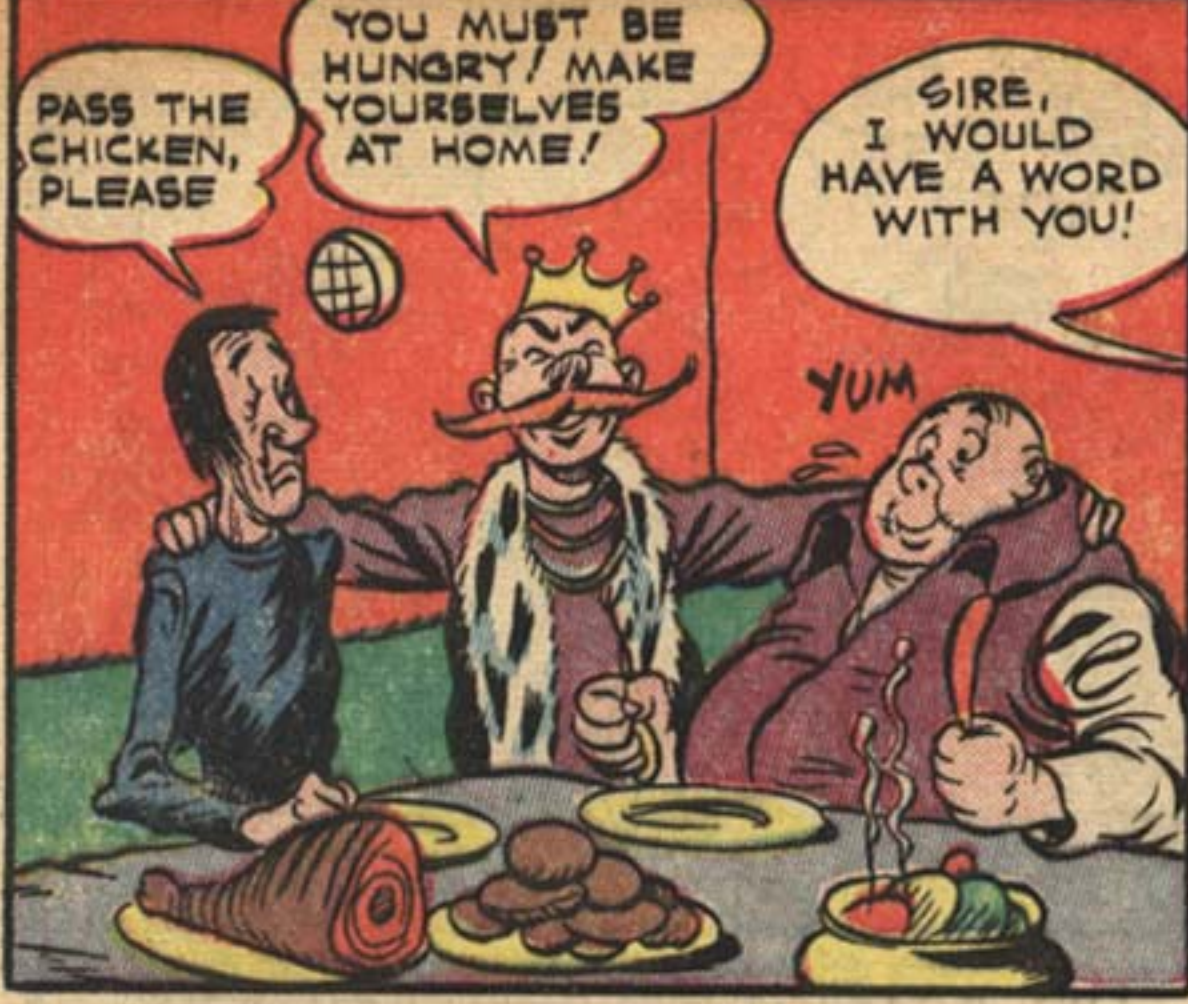


I SHALL EAT HIM! NO OBJECTIONS, I HOPE!

N.. NOT AT ALL!

PLEASURE'S ALL MINE!





ARE YOU LOCO MARCO?
HOW THE HECK CAN THAT
JERK GIVE THE MEDUSA
A HAIRCUT? AND
BESIDES, IS HE
A UNION MAN?

WELL,
GEE, YER
MAJESTY,
I ONLY
THOUGHT..



THERE!



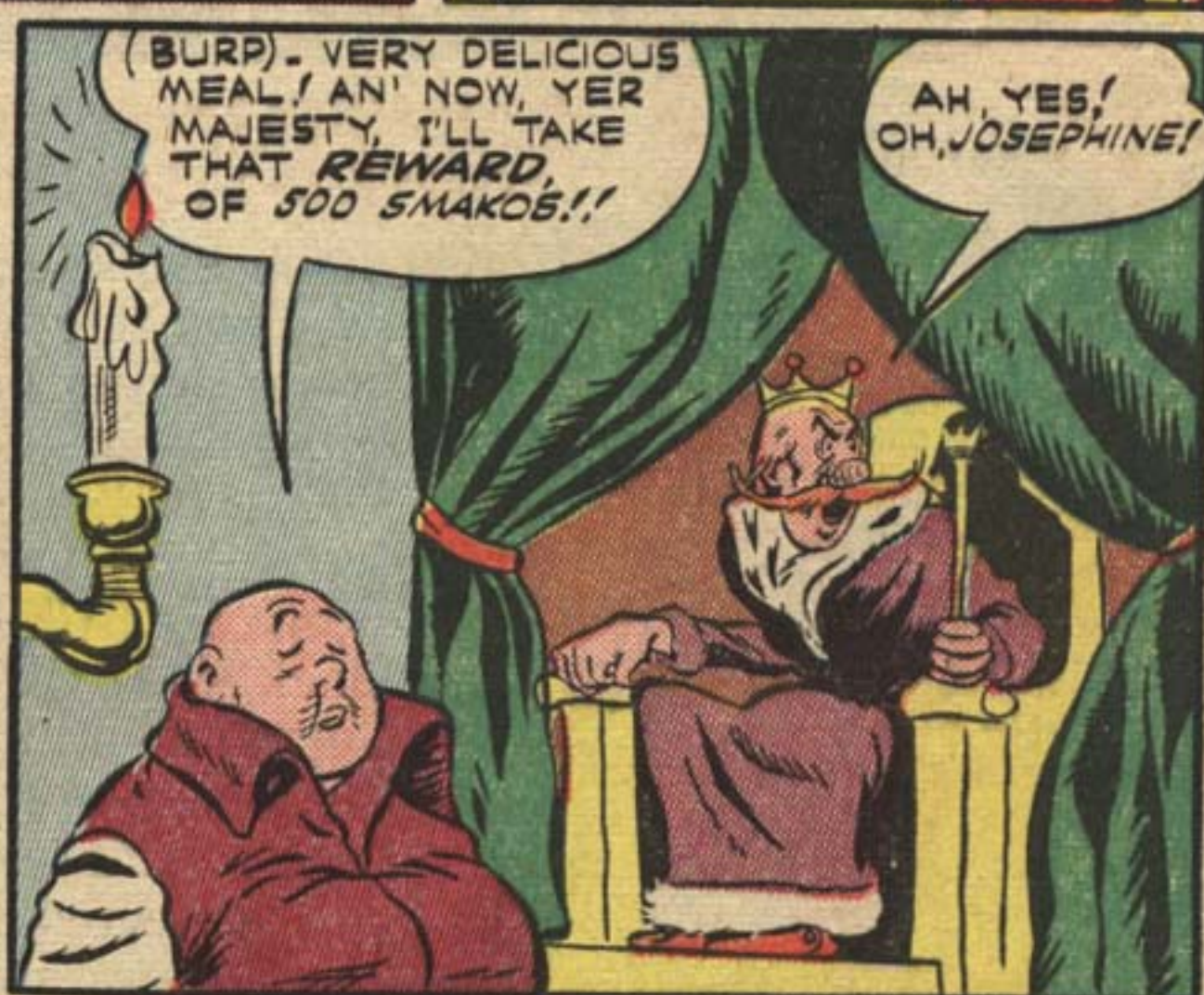
THAT'S THAT!
NOW, LET'S
GET BACK
TO THE EATS!
SMACK!!)

WELL, START
SNIPPIN'! DO
YOU EXPECT
ME TO DO
IT ALL?



(BURP) - VERY DELICIOUS
MEAL! AN' NOW, YER
MAJESTY, I'LL TAKE
THAT REWARD,
OF 500 SMAKOS!!

AH, YES!
OH, JOSEPHINE!



WHO IS
THIS?

MY DAUGHTER!
SHE'LL GIVE YOU
YOUR 500 SMAKOS!
GIVE, JOSEPHINE!

AH, YOU'RE
A LUCKY
MAN, LOCO!

OKAY,
POP...
MMM..



COME
BACK, YOU
WRETCH!

YOU'RE GONNA
GET YOUR RE-
WARD, IF I HAFTA
CHASE YOU TO
CHINA!!

FASTER,
SNOOCH!

AYE!



CHINA! HMM... HISTORY
IS GOING TO BE MADE IN
THE NEXT ISSUE OF
PEP COMICS!

REMOVE UGLY BLACKHEADS OR NO COST



AMAZING NEW SCIENTIFIC METHOD

If you have blackheads, you know how embarrassing they are, how they clog your pores, mar your appearance and invite criticism. Now you can solve the problem of eliminating blackheads, forever, with this amazing new VACUTEX Inventon. It extracts filthy blackheads in seconds, painlessly, without injuring or squeezing the skin. VACUTEX creates a gentle vacuum around blackhead! Cleans out hard-to-reach places in a jiffy. Germ laden fingers never touch the skin. Simply place the direction finder over blackhead, draw back extractor . . . and it's out! Release extractor and blackhead is ejected. VACUTEX does it all! Don't risk infection with old-fashioned methods. Order TODAY!

ACTUAL LENGTH 3 1/2"

**ONLY
THREE
EASY
STEPS**

**UGLY
BLACKHEADS**

**USE
VACUTEX**



**THEY'RE
OUT!**

**RUSH
COUPON**

**Send No
MONEY**

10 DAY TRIAL OFFER

Don't wait until embarrassing criticism makes you act. Don't risk losing out on popularity and success because of ugly dirt-clogged pores. ACT NOW! Enjoy the thrill of having a clean skin, free of pore-clogging, embarrassing blackheads. Try Vacutex for 10 days. We guarantee it to do all we claim. If you are not completely satisfied your \$1.00 will be immediately refunded.

BALLCO PRODUCTS COMPANY, Dept. 6202
516 Fifth Avenue, New York, 18, N. Y.

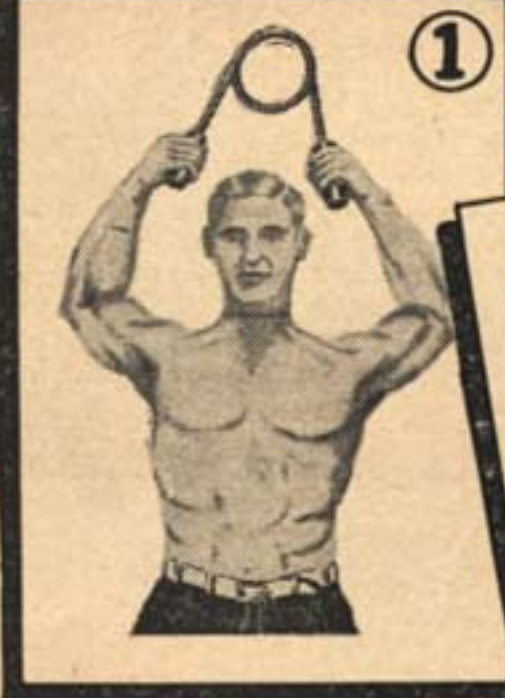
- Ship C.O.D.. I will pay postman \$1.00 plus postage. My \$1.00 will be refunded if I am not delighted.
- I prefer to enclose \$1.00 now and save postage. (Same guarantee as above.)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

Get **SUPER STRENGTH** through these **4 EASY STEPS**



①



②



③

ADD INCHES to your CHEST, BACK AND BICEPS

Here is your chance to develop a body packed with rock ribbed man-muscle, surging with vibrant, dynamic power... a body that men and women must admire. Just these four easy steps, practised only a few minutes a day, will help build inches of

Super Power Crusher Grip - "MOULDER OF MEN"

The amazing super power Crusher Grip pictured in the four exercises, made of 3/8" high tension steel, has been used by some of the strongest men in the world! America today has no place for weaklings. America needs **STRONG MEN**, men who will build the better world of tomorrow. Prepare for tomorrow's successes by developing crushing strength today! Complete illustrated instructions with each Crusher Grip.

Get Strong This Professional Way!

Follow the footsteps of professional muscle men to develop a superb body and muscles of steel. This fast-moving muscle developer gets you there in four easy steps. Simply follow the simplified instructions and use your Super Power Crusher Grip which is free with this offer. Act now while the entire outfit is available at a low price... the supply is limited.



④

power packed muscle on your frame, develop crushing biceps, husky forearms, super-strength back, chest, stomach and leg muscles, make a new man of you... **ALL MAN!**

SUPER POWER CRUSHER GRIP FREE

DOUBLE Money Back GUARANTEE

If these muscle builders don't bring you satisfactory results in an amazingly short time, WE WILL GIVE YOU DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK.

SEND NO MONEY

Just fill in and send coupon. When postman delivers your Super Power Crusher Grip and free Super Power Hand Grips, pay him only \$1.98 plus postage. Develop champion strength as champions do. Rush coupon...Now!

MUSCLE POWER CO.

Dept. 2102, P.O. Box 1 Station X, New York, 54, N. Y.

WITH YOUR ORDER
SUPER POWER HAND GRIPS
Powerful high tension hand grips. Builds powerful wrists, forearms, fingers... and it's FREE with your order.



MUSCLE POWER CO.

Dept. 2102, P. O. Box No. 1, Station X, New York, 54, N. Y.

Send me the Super Strength Crusher Grip as described. I will pay the postman only \$1.98 plus postage. Also enclose the Super Power Hand Grips free with my order.

Name.....

Address.....

(SPECIAL) If you are aboard ship or outside the U.S.A. please send money order for \$2.15.

Boys!

FREE

5 POWER TELESCOPE



WITH THIS OFFER

If you order the Krak-A-Jap Machine Gun at once, we will include this big 13-inch 5-Power Telescope absolutely FREE. It's made with genuine ground, polished glass lenses. Enlarges everything to 5 times its size—brings objects 5 times closer. Perfect for spotting planes, ships, birds, sporting events, etc. We will also include a valuable Airplane Chart FREE, showing 31 Allied and Axis planes in silhouette so that they could be easily identified.

New

COMMANDO KRAK-A-JAP MACHINE GUN

Safe Harmless!



How would you like to play "WAR" with your very own Krak-A-Jap Machine Gun? So completely does it resemble the real machine gun used by our Commandos, that you will get a thrill when you get it in your hands. You will be positively amazed when you hear its loud machine gun noise that can be heard for hundreds of feet.

The Krak-A-Jap is made of wood and non-critical material and it's built to stand up and take plenty of hard knocks. It measures over 27 inches from the handle to the tip of the gun and it is painted in true army camouflage colors throughout. It's loads of fun—makes a noise like a real battle is going on—but it's absolutely SAFE and HARMLESS. Rush your order today while our limited supply lasts.

BOYS! BE THE FIRST ONE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD TO OWN A "KRAK-A-JAP"

What a thrill you will get when you actually own and use the new Commando Krak-A-Jap Machine Gun. The gang will be green with envy if you are the first one in your neighborhood to get a Krak-A-Jap Commando Machine Gun and the FREE 5-Power Telescope.

You needn't send a single penny. Have Dad or Mother fill out and mail the "no risk" coupon. When your Krak-A-Jap and Free Telescope arrive, just pay the postman \$1.98 plus a few pennies postage and c.o.d. charges. If the Krak-A-Jap isn't more fun than a "barrel of monkeys," just return it within 10 days and we will refund your money in full. Don't forget, if you RUSH your order at once, we send you the big 5-Power Telescope absolutely FREE.

Send no money To Get Your **COMMANDO** Machine Gun and **FREE** Telescope

ILLINOIS MERCHANDISE MART
500 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill. Dept. 1705

Gentlemen: I enclose my check or money order for \$1.98. Please rush me the new Commando Krak-A-Jap Machine Gun with the understanding that if I am not fully satisfied with it, I may return it in 10 days and get my money back. You are to include absolutely FREE the 5-Power Telescope described above.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Please ship the Krak-A-Jap Machine Gun and Free Telescope c.o.d. I will pay the postman \$1.98 plus postage and c.o.d. charges.

Please send me 2 Krak-A-Jap Machine Guns and 2 Free Telescopes at the special price of \$3.79 (a saving of 17c).

Hurry Fellas! Rush This Coupon